

# THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND

## China Overland Trade Report.

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### BIRTH.

At Brockhurst, the Peak, on the 8th August, the wife of HENRY ALLAN RITCHIE, of a daughter.

[1822]

### MARRIAGE.

On the 7th July, at the American Consulate, Canton, by the Rev. H. J. Stevens, BENJEMAN C. RANDALL, C.E., also British and Foreign Bible Society, to ANNIE, eldest daughter of the late SONG NIK HING, American Board Mission, Foochow.

[1806]

### DEATHS.

At Bombay, on the 7th August, BEHERAMJEE, the youngest and beloved son of F. D. SETNA, of Cawasjee Pallanjee & Co., Hongkong, aged 3 months and 16 days. Deeply regretted.

[1823]

At the Yokohama General Hospital, on Thursday, 29th July, EUGENE BONNEAU, recently arrived from Tonkin, formerly employed at the Messageries Maritimes, Yokohama.

At the General Hospital, Shanghai, on the 5th August, 1897, ROBERT BRUCE CAMPBELL, late 3rd Officer of the steamer *Pekin*, aged 37 years.

### ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The English mail of the 9th July arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Rosetta*, on the 7th August (29 days).

### EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

Tenders are invited for the building of the Shanghai station of the Woosung Railway.

Mr. William Woodville Rockhill, so well known in Peking circles, has been appointed United States Minister and Consul-General in Greece, Roumania, and Servia.

The Yah-loong Cotton Spinning Co., Limited, of which Messrs. Fearon, Daniel & Co. are the General Managers, has been successfully floated at Shanghai.

The German Commercial Mission to the Far East has arrived at Yokohama from Korea.

The Russian steamer *Vladimir*, of the Russian Navigation in the East line, became a total loss on a voyage from Vladivostok to Shanghai. The crew were saved.—*Mercury*.

By a recent edict, in answer to a suggestion of the Tsungli Yamèn, the Chinese Minister to Berlin is also to be accredited to The Hague, while the Minister at St. Petersburg will be commanded to look after Chinese affairs in Vienna. Formerly the Minister to Germany was accredited to all four countries.

The Shanghai Municipal Council has, we learn from the *N. C. Daily News*, decided to reorganise the Police and a new Captain-Superintendent is to be engaged at home for that purpose. Captain Mackenzie has been informed that he will have to revert to his former rank of Deputy Superintendent.

H.E. Wu Ting-fang, Chinese Minister to Washington, who has only just got into the working of his duties, is likely, the *Shanghai Mercury* says, to be transferred to Tokyo, the Chinese Minister there being recalled to Peking to attend an enquiry into charges which have been brought against him in his official capacity.

It is reported that owing to the exceptional business during the past twelve months, i.e., since the beginning of the 7th moon (August) of last year, the authorities of the Chinese Telegraph Administration will be able to pay a dividend of something approaching 40 per cent. to the shareholders, some of the surplus money being applied to the purchase of shares in the new Imperial Bank, which it is intended to put to the credit of the shareholders of the Telegraph Administration. It is probable that a certain surplus will be set aside every year for the purchase of these Bank shares, until half-a-million taels' worth are bought.—*N. C. Daily News*.

We are informed by the agency of the Yokohama Specie Bank here that their head office at Yokohama distributed a circular dated Yokohama, 30th July, 1897, to their customers, of which the following is an extract:—"On and after the 1st day of October next all debts accrued or to accrue, due by the bank in Japan, though purporting to have been contracted in silver yens, will be payable in an equal number of yen of gold currency; and that silver yen cannot be specifically demanded though it can be received in payment; and also the Bank is authorised to convert the Nippon Ginko notes into gold coin for any amount on demand on and after the above date."

We regret to announce that news has been received at Shanghai of the death of Mr. Happer, Commissioner of Customs at Newchwang. Mr. Happer died on Tuesday night, 27th July, of hydrophobia. As most of our readers will remember, Mr. Happer was bitten by a dog on the 18th of December last, and, accompanied by his wife, proceeded at once to the Pasteur Institute at Saigon and underwent the usual course of treatment. Mr. Happer, who was a son of the late Dr. Happer, of Canton, and a brother of Mrs. G. B. Glover, entered the Customs service in July, 1879, and became Commissioner in April, 1889. He was decorated with the Civil Rank of the 3rd class on the 2nd of July, 1893.—*N. C. Daily News*.

Captain Ronneaux, who was under arrest at Saigon on a charge of embezzling a large sum of money which passed through his hands as paymaster, has committed suicide by hanging himself in his cell.

Coming events are casting their shadows before them at Tangku, where the China Merchants' S. N. Co. have raised a large tract of land immediately below the C. E. and Mining Co.'s property, preparatory, we are informed, to erecting wharves and godowns. The steamer companies will be forced to follow the example of the Mining Co., and make themselves independent of the river if the present state of things continues much longer. The Railway Administration, however, will have to bestir itself if it desires to make provision for the altered conditions which the movement we refer to betokens.—*Peking and Tientsin Times*.

A correspondent writes that at Weihaiwei the Japanese troops are being rapidly reduced and that only a comparatively small garrison now holds the place. The forts are all dismantled and in ruins; expensive Krupp guns of large calibre lying about, some broken and fractured by charges of dynamite and all thrown down and damaged in such a way as to be rendered utterly useless. One wonders why these costly cannon were not preserved, as it was the Japanese conquerors who destroyed them, not the Chinese, who simply ran away and left them intact. One would have supposed that they could easily have been transported to Japan and used there in coast defence. These dismantled forts which were quite new and had been built at great cost under foreign supervision, give one an impressive sense of the desolation that war brings in its train, and a distressing sense of the impotence of the Chinese in the use of these modern modes of warfare and their utter helplessness as opposed to any European Power or a Power like Japan. The thrifty husbandman has, in the meanwhile, changed the aspect of affairs by using the ground occupied by the forts as an addition to the adjoining fields of millet or sweet potatoes. *China Gazette*.

The *Shanghai Mercury* of the 3rd August says:—Mr. R. W. Hurst, formerly H.B.M.'s Consul at Pakhoi, is due here in a few days by the P. & O. steamer *Shanghai*, from London. Mr. Hurst will proceed to Chinkiang to succeed Mr. G. D. Pitzipios. Mr. Pitzipios, as has been stated already, comes to Shanghai. Mr. H. R. Brady presently leaves Shanghai for Samshui, on the West River, where he will commence his duties with the rank of full Consul. Social considerations do not weigh with the Foreign Office in considering Consular changes, but we only endorse the feelings of our readers when in welcoming Mr. Pitzipios once more to Shanghai, we regret the departure of Mr. Brady for the South. Sir Claude Macdonald, H.B.M.'s Minister to Peking, has been urging upon the Imperial Government the especial need which exists for the appointment of two full Consuls at the two ports on the West River, and at the two posts on the Yunnan frontier. Provision has been made in the estimates for only one Consul and an assistant at Samshui, and the same on the Yunnan border; but it is hoped and believed that the counsels of Sir Claude Macdonald will prevail at Downing Street, especially as they have economy among more important reasons to recommend them.



### INSPECTOR WITCHELL'S CONVICTION AND THE BRIBERY SCANDAL.

The conviction of Inspector WITCHELL, of the Hongkong Police Force, on a charge of neglect of duty and receiving bribes in connection with gambling, will be regarded with mixed feelings by the community. On the one hand, seeing that bribery and corruption have existed in the Force, satisfaction must be felt that it has, in one case at least, been successfully hunted down and dealt with; on the other hand, to have a European officer convicted of such a charge not only throws discredit upon the service to which he belongs but must tend to lower the Chinese estimate of European integrity in general. Foreign newspapers in China are continually writing about the rottenness and corruption of the Chinese public service, and to find that our own public service has been attacked by the same vice is painfully humiliating. Under the circumstances the sentence passed upon WITCHELL cannot be complained of on the ground of undue severity. The offence was one that merited severe punishment, provided it was clearly brought home to the accused. On the latter point the jury were unanimous, and there seems no good reason to question the justice of the verdict. The case, it is true, rested almost entirely on the evidence of Chinese witnesses, who were of known bad character, and Chinese evidence always requires to be sifted with great suspicion; we may take it for granted that it was so sifted by the jury in the present case, and that they were satisfied that the statements made by the men were in the main correct. To form a correct judgment of the reliance to be placed on the evidence of a Chinese witness it is necessary to see him actually under examination and watch his demeanour, an ordinary newspaper report being incapable of conveying fully or correctly the impressions that may be produced thereby. In WITCHELL's case, however, there was a strong piece of corroborative evidence that can be appreciated by every one, namely, that one of the Chinese witnesses mentioned the contents of a letter which was supposed to be known of only by the Hon. F. H. MAY and his wife and Inspector WITCHELL, and knowledge of which must have come to the witness improperly through WITCHELL; thus showing that the latter had been in communication and on friendly terms with the gamblers. WITCHELL was looked upon as one of the most capable and reliable men in the Force, and in all ordinary matters we have no doubt he lived up to his reputation, but he succumbed to the temptation to augment his income by winking at gambling, an offence which it was his duty to put down, but which he possibly considered venial. If a man like WITCHELL cannot be relied upon, how far are we to suppose corruption has eaten into the Force? The salaries the men receive are small and the temptation held out by the gamblers is great. It is the duty of the Government as far as possible to remove that temptation, which could be done by licensing a limited number of gambling houses, as was done in Sir RICHARD MACDONNELL's time. It is objected to that system that it leads to dishonesty amongst shroffs, domestic servants, and others, who are tempted to rob their employers in order to secure the means to gratify their craving for gambling. When the system was in force it was the fashion amongst its opponents to attribute every case of dishonesty to the influence of the gambling houses, but

without any sufficient warrant. Gambling has been legalised at Macao time out of mind; in Hongkong the efforts of the Government have, with the exception of the short existence of the Gambling Farm, been directed to the suppression of the practice; but we venture to think that the honesty of the native community of Macao compares favourably with that of the native community of Hongkong, and they certainly get along with a much smaller police force. Whatever may be the decision of the Government on this point, however, it is a matter for satisfaction that the corruption which had attacked the Hongkong Police Force has been successfully tracked down, a result which we owe to the firmness and ability with which the Hon. F. H. MAY, the Captain Superintendent, faced an exceedingly disagreeable duty. To that officer, and to Mr. J. J. FRANCIS, Q.C., through whom the original information in the case reached Mr. MAY and who assisted in the subsequent investigation, the thanks of the public are due.

### THE PRESS AND THE DETECTION OF CRIME.

Now that the WITCHELL case has ended we may be permitted to refer to a personal matter in connection with the circumstances out of which the case arose. The existence of the scandal was first publicly mentioned in the columns of this journal, and we were blamed for prematurely "blurring it out," to use the elegant expression of one writer. It was not, however, until the matter had become a subject of conversation, not only in a limited circle of Europeans, but amongst the Chinese community, that it found its way into print. If the appearance of the article in question was the first intimation the authorities had that knowledge of the matter had travelled beyond the small circle to which it was in the first instance confined it must certainly have served a good purpose, as the inquiries of the Captain Superintendent of Police and others interested might have been to some extent burred had they proceeded on the mistaken assumption that the matter was known only to those officially acquainted with it. Furthermore, the case was not one which admitted of any hushing up, even temporarily. The Chief Justice in his summing up on Tuesday said:—"I think myself that the moment Captain MAY made that seizure and had *prima facie* ground for thinking that the No. 12 mentioned in the list was the defendant, his plain duty was to have this case investigated fully before the Magistrate and, if the Magistrate sent it forward, in this court also." Paraphrasing his Lordship's words, we may say that the moment a public journal has *prima facie* ground for believing that a scandal exists in the public service it is the duty of that journal to bring it forward in order that it may be investigated at the bar of public opinion. In the present instance we do not suppose the publication in our columns of the report that corruption had been discovered in the Police Force had much actual effect in promoting the interests of justice, but it certainly had no effect contrary to those interests. As a general rule, however, the efforts of the responsible authorities to keep the knowledge of crime back until they have a case ready for trial is to be deprecated. The official theory is that publication might put the criminal on his guard and give him information that might facilitate his escape. The assistance to be derived from publication, however, far outweighs the disadvantages, of which we

have a notable instance in the BUTLER case in Australia. In commenting on that case the *Sydney Morning Herald* made the following remarks, which we would commend to the attention of police authorities everywhere:—"In glancing back over the successive stages of investigation and revelation which led to the full detection of this crime, one of the reflections which most strongly arrest the attention is the large share in the work of discovery and proof which was taken by means of the agency of the press. While the work of search and collection of evidence was still in progress it was largely assisted by the eager co-operation of the public. Information was spontaneously supplied, deficient links of the chain of proof were contributed, valuable indications were made known to the police, and the whole community, under the influence of a stern desire for justice, resolved itself into a kind of volunteer organisation for assisting the police in tracking the murderer. By what means did this strong sentiment take possession of the mind of the public, and how did it become known what were the points of evidence requisite to complete the chain of proof? The sentiment and the knowledge were due to the publicity given to all known particulars by the press. Day by day, as the fabric of criminating evidence was built up by the information and researches of all in the community who had come in contact with BUTLER, the latest particulars were supplied to the public, and all who saw themselves in a position to add anything to the story promptly put their information in the hands of the police. And thus, by the co-operation of the whole community, the complete narrative of crime grew up. One salient instance of the effect of the press in aiding the detection of the crime was that of the mountain resident who, at a distance from the scene of the crime, read of the searches of the police, and returned to the spot with the firm conviction that he could discover the missing body, and at once succeeded in doing so."

### RAILWAY PROSPECTS IN CHINA.

As we have stated on previous occasions, we have little faith in any material progress in China. The Peking Government have, by the inexorable logic of facts, as forced on their notice through the humiliating defeat of China by Japan in the recent war, been compelled to admit the desirability of railways as a means of rapid communication and therefore a strategic necessity. But neither this admission, nor the Imperial sanction of certain projects for main lines, can be counted upon to ensure their early construction. The years and the decades slip by and China is still without any internal means of communication save those natural ones afforded by her magnificent system of waterways. The railway has at last been constructed which brings the capital into communication with its port, but beyond this line and another military road to Shan-hai-kwan there are still no railways in the Celestial Empire, and were it not for foreign money we doubt whether any really great trunk line would be made. And therein lay a difficulty. The foreigner was not likely to lend good hard cash without excellent security: he would advance on the security of the railway itself, especially if allowed to construct and provide the material. But the Chinese Government are averse to allowing foreigners to acquire any interest in the soil or public works of the empire, and jealously



exclude them from such an interest. They are prepared to hypothecate the Customs revenue and other sources of income for a period, but they will not hear of a foreigner holding shares in a railway or an industrial concern in China. Hence it has been a matter of some difficulty to finance the railways, and the Chinese officials, with few exceptions, have shown little eagerness to attempt the removal of the obstacles in the way. CHANG CHIH-TUNG sought to overcome the difficulty by making the material himself, but after many years' delay and a vast outlay of money, His Excellency is still in no position to carry out his project. The importance of constructing a trunk line from north to south has, however, at length sufficiently impressed itself on the Central Government to have brought about an arrangement for a loan with a foreign syndicate for the purpose. For some time it appeared highly probable that even this would fall through, but according to a Shanghai contemporary, the convention with the Belgian Syndicate for the construction of the Lu-Han Railway—between a point near Peking and Hankow—has been signed and ratified, and the representatives of the Syndicate left Shanghai for Brussels on the 31st ult. There is consequently every probability of this the first section of the grand Trunk Line of China being soon commenced. It is believed that the work will be inaugurated in the spring of next year. Of course it will, under the most favourable conditions, take some years to complete, but at the rate CHANG CHIH-TUNG was progressing the end of the twentieth century would still have found it unfinished.

It will be interesting to learn what route the projected line will take. Probably it will run pretty nearly the course sketched by Sir MACDONALD STEPHENSON, in his sketch map accompanying his report on "Railways in China." Starting from Peking, that course touched first at Tientsin, thence to Kingchow and Tongshan, following the course of the Grand or Imperial Canal until reaching Chinkiang, or a point on the opposite side of the river to that city, from whence it struck west to Hankow, calling at Nanking, Ngankin, Wuhu, and numerous other towns *en route*. From Hankow, or rather from Wuchang, on the southern bank of the Yangtze (for it is not likely the Chinese will go to the enormous cost of bridging that great father of waters), Sir MACDONALD STEPHENSON conducted his line to Yochow, near the entrance of the Tung-ting Lake, then on to Changsha—the anti-foreign capital of Hunan—on to Siangtan, Chao-chow, &c., to Canton, which was his terminus. In the modern scheme we believe, as Tientsin is already connected with Peking, it is intended to take the line first to Paoting-fu, an important city, and thence to Kingchow. This would open up some fresh country, and would not entail much more expense. The real southern terminus of this line, whenever constructed, will undoubtedly prove Kowloon, and a line from the City of Rams to the opposite peninsula received the Imperial sanction some years ago. Whether the scheme will be included in the Government programme or be left to private enterprise subsequently we are unable to predict, but that it will be not the least important section in the railway we are as confident as that night must follow the day. But let no one delude himself that this undertaking is within measurable distance of being commenced. Nothing in the Chinese Empire is so absolutely certain as delay. When everything looks in fair trim for progress something unexpected

invariably happens, and the desired work is deferred for months or it may be for years. When the little experimental railway was first successfully laid—after some little finessing it must be confessed—between Shanghai and Woosung there were few who doubted that it would so take hold of the imagination of the Chinese that they would speedily adopt the innovation and soon acquire a railway system of their own. That was in 1876, but having first purchased the line and rolling stock and torn up the rails, the Chinese Government would not for more than a decade listen to any proposals for the introduction of the iron horse, and while every other country in the world was gradually adopting this means of communication the Chinese Government would have none of it, preferring to cling to the ancient ways, although the mandarins had tasted of the comforts of steamer travelling when moving on the coast from one port to another or going to and from the West on diplomatic missions in the luxurious mail vessels. But in those days there was the great squeeze question to negotiate, as well as all the minor matters of prejudice, *feng-shui*, and suspected interference with trade to consider, and, seeing how the officials in the Two Kwang have for upwards of twenty years rendered one clause of the Treaties a dead letter in spite of constant protests by the representatives of the Powers, it is not perhaps so very surprising that the most conservative nation in the world should have succeeded in excluding one of the most potent agents of change and progress.

#### THE KING OF SIAM'S VISIT TO EUROPE.

It is sincerely to be hoped that the visit of His Majesty the King of SIAM to Europe will have more than one good effect. Reuter has already informed us that the friendly reception of King CHULALONGKORN by the Czar has resulted in the adjustment of the difficulties between France and Siam. We are now told that His Siamese Majesty has arrived in London and was escorted by the Life Guards to Buckingham Palace. The relations between the present ruler of Siam and Great Britain have always been excellent, and the British Government evidently intend to do His Majesty every honour. Siam is a comparatively poor and unimportant state, but the King has ever since his accession, some twenty-nine years ago, evinced a genuine desire to promote reform and progress in his dominions, and has always shown the most friendly feeling to British residents. During the past twenty years many changes have been effected, roads and railways have been constructed, a postal and telegraph system established, merchant vessels built, the adumbration of a navy acquired, a subsidiary coinage put into circulation, education fostered, and various reforms attempted. That more substantial progress has not been accomplished is due, not to the King's indisposition to carry out reforms, but probably to the enervating influences of an Oriental Court and the moist heat of the depressing climate, which naturally reduces all vital energy to a very low ebb. The King's appreciation of the advantages of Western education has been amply proved by the despatch at various times of Siamese princes and nobles to England to be educated. Two of the Royal Princes were educated at Oxford, and some of the King's nephew have graduated at Cambridge. The Crown Prince is also at the present time being educated in England. It will be readily understood therefore that His Majesty will

take a keen pleasure in visiting a country of which he has heard so much and with which Siam has maintained friendly intercourse without interruption. He will receive not only a warm welcome from the Queen and Government but also from the English people. Much sympathy was felt in England with Siam during the recent trouble with France, and in Great Britain much satisfaction will be felt at the settlement said to have been brought about by the intervention of the Czar. The trouble was entirely the result of interference by French agents in Indo-China; the French Government probably knew little of the beginnings of the dispute, and had no wish to be involved in a quarrel with a friendly neighbour. There are some ambitious Frenchmen no doubt who would like to see Siam annexed to Indo-China, but the French Government know too well the difficulties in the way of developing the territories already acquired to wish to take over the humid and malarious delta of the Menam, however fertile a rice field it may be. Tonkin may be made into a really valuable colony, and if any Frenchmen suffer from excess of vital energy they can expend some of it in the exhausting and malarious climate of Cochin-China, which very closely resembles that of Bangkok. But our French neighbours prefer temperate climes, and would not emigrate to Siam if they could annex it tomorrow. President FAURE, good sensible man that he is, will no doubt heartily welcome King CHULALONGKORN in Paris next month, the time arranged for his visit, and probably give His Majesty very sincere assurances of French support and friendship. It should be the mission of the French Republic to aid and sustain any country struggling to advance in civilization and not to hamper it by seeking causes of quarrel for aggressive purposes. Siam has, alone of all Indo-Chinese countries, shown a capacity for improvement, and deserves assistance in the effort to take a place among Asiatic Powers. The French people are too generous to knowingly enter upon a course of aggression against a State that should rather engage sympathy than invite hostility. The Siamese have shown neither the antipathy to foreigners nor the contempt of Western civilization which have distinguished the Chinese; nor have they given proof of the hopeless impotence and irritating treachery common to the Annamites and Cambodians. We trust therefore that the outcome of the visit of King CHULALONGKORN to Europe will be a better understanding all round and a full recognition by France of Siamese independence.

#### THE SHANGHAI CONSULAR TRADE REPORT.

The Shanghai Consular trade report for 1896 is written by Sir NICHOLAS J. HANSEN, the Consul-General, and is an interesting and instructive document. For some years past the report has been written by Mr. JAMIESON, the Consul, who is now absent on leave. Mr. JAMIESON, as is well known, is a pronounced bimetallist. The Consul-General is more reserved as to the advantages of the silver standard, and, in fact, does not commit himself to an expression of his own opinion on the subject, though he notes the fact that the majority of commercial men at Shanghai believe that a silver-using country has an advantage. If there is my such advantage China, he says, or the enterprising men of other nations who have made her their field of labour, "is going to try and



"make the most of it, and the present generation will receive an object lesson in the good or evil effects of having the cheaper metal as a monetary standard. In twenty-five years, if no change takes place in the relative rates of gold and silver, we shall be able to see by a study of Chinese manufactures whether those who advocate the silver standard are right." Twenty-five years is rather a long time to wait. We do not believe, however, that China's prosperity as a manufacturing country depends so much on the monetary standard as seems to be generally supposed. With her large consuming markets, an abundant supply of labour, and her manufacturing and trading facilities generally, it would seem that China is bound to prosper, whatever her monetary standard, provided that the Government treats industry and commerce with anything like moderate fairness. As to the cost of labour Sir NICHOLAS makes one remark that will cause surprise to many people. He has, he says, "been informed that the women operatives in the filatures around Shanghai are now receiving higher wages than the same class of operatives in Italy." He adds, however, that with the enormous population of China one cannot help thinking that competition in the labour market will bring down wages, but, without being organised into trade unions, the Chinese labourers have a means of their own of keeping up wages, and once a rate is established it is very difficult to lower it. With the decline in the value of silver, which is at last making itself felt even in China, the tendency of wages, we should think, will be upward rather than downward. Moreover, industrial development will in China as elsewhere lead to a higher standard of living, which in turn means a higher rate of wages.

As to China's competition with other countries, Sir NICHOLAS HANNEN says that "one circumstance consoling to British trade is that she will only be affected in the same way as every other nation, and that as her trade with China is larger than that of any other nation China's prosperity is likely to be of more advantage to her than to any other country." In the meantime, it is rather refreshing, in these days of jeremiads on the decline of British trade, to find that the Consul-General at Shanghai does not deem it necessary to adopt a pessimistic tone. A table is given showing the imports into Shanghai, and their origin, for the years 1882, 1894, 1895, and 1896, on which the Consul-General comments as follows:—"From this table it appears that if percentages are looked at, countries other than Great Britain have increased their trade more rapidly than we have; their rate of increase being at the rate of about 68 per cent., whereas ours has only been, at the rate of 23 per cent. It is to be noted, however, that our import trade is three times as great as that of all other countries put together; that in 1882 it was 78 per cent. of the whole, in 1894 it was 76 per cent., in 1895 it was 79 per cent., and in 1896 it was 75 per cent., not a very material falling off." In fact there has been no falling off at all. The fallacy of taking percentages of increase as a basis of comparison has often been pointed out, as it always gives a fictitious advantage to the smaller figures. The total foreign imports into the port of Shanghai in 1882 amounted to a value of H. Tls. 54,993,000, and in 1896 to Tls. 130,098,000, showing an increase of Tls. 75,105,000. Of this increase Great Britain and her possessions claim Tls. 53,734,000, or 71

per cent., and other countries Tls. 21,371,000, or 28 per cent. This is a fairer as well as a more satisfactory way of stating the position. The above calculations, however, it should be noted, are to some extent vitiated by the fact that the origin of the goods imported from Hongkong is unknown, and the whole amount is put down as British, whereas in fact a large proportion of it is foreign.

#### THE CURRENCY QUESTION IN CHINA.

In the Consular reports for last year, as well as in the Customs reports, reference is made to the scarcity of copper cash in China and the high rate at which they now exchange with the dollar. From Mr. TRATMAN's report on the trade of Chungking we learn that the scarcity has been very seriously felt at that port, and that an attempt, which the Consul terms ill-advised, of the authorities to call in the small or debased coins which form about twenty-five per cent. of the currency did not improve matters. Silver coinage and cash notes were introduced, some \$20,000 worth of the silver tokens produced at the Wuchang mint being brought to Chungking and placed for circulation, and Government notes of the face value of 1,000 cash being printed. "These latter are," Mr. TRATMAN continues, "unfortunately not 1,000 cash notes in reality, because they are fixed to exchange at 8 mace of silver, which now only produce a little over 900 cash. Whether from pure conservatism or from distrust of their officials where money is concerned, the people have shown no inclination to make use either of the silver coins or of the notes, and cash continues tight. Meanwhile, an order has been placed with a foreign firm for the machinery for two mints, one to coin dollars at Chungking and one for cash at the provincial capital. It is to be hoped that the cash mint will turn out a smaller or cheaper coin than the existing one. So long as the metal produced by melting down 1,000 cash can be sold for more than that sum so long will good cash be scarce." Mr. W. HOLLAND, the Consul at Ichang, says:—"The fall in the purchasing power of silver has affected the market in Ichang as regards the exchange between silver and copper cash, though, no doubt, the primary factor in this question was, and still is, the scarcity of cash." Here we have a partial illustration of the working of bimetalism, the metals concerned being silver and copper instead of gold and silver; but it cannot be taken as conclusive, in view of the confused condition of the currency in China and the imperfect application of the law of legal tender. So far as the illustration goes, it is not very favourable to the bimetallic theory, as the fall in the value of the one metal leads to a debasement of the coins of the other metal; but that does not prove that civilised States like those of Europe and America could not by joint action establish a legal ratio between the two precious metals, or, for the matter of that, between silver and copper, if it were deemed desirable. There is no probability, however, of the States that have discarded silver retracing their steps, and now that the white metal has fallen so low China is confronted with a serious problem in the regulation of her currency of silver and copper. The lower silver falls the greater will be the inducement to melt down the copper cash, and it appears impossible for the Chinese Government to maintain any fixed ratio between

the two metals. But something will have to be done before very long. Let us hope that that something will not be of a nature to further depreciate silver.

#### BRITISH NORTH BORNEO.

Investments in British North Borneo have left somewhat bitter memories in the minds of the Hongkong public, but it would seem that the great territory which owns the sway of the Chartered Company, so far from being merely a land of buried hopes, is beginning to justify its claim to be regarded as a land of promise. The reasons of the failure of most of the Hongkong Companies formed some years ago to carry on planting enterprise in North Borneo are perhaps not far to seek. The capital was raised and expended before the country had been sufficiently pioneered; the Companies lacked the knowledge necessary to carry them to a successful issue and were launched years too soon. The country is now being opened up by roads and railways and the organisation necessary for successfully carrying on planting enterprise and business generally has made substantial advance. From the recently published progress report a fair idea of the capabilities of the country may be gathered. Tobacco growing is an assured success, the cultivation of coffee continues to extend, coconut plantations are being established, the prospects for cotton cultivation are good, the timber industry is flourishing, and a Company has been formed to develop a trade in Manila hemp. The country is also believed to possess considerable wealth in gold and petroleum, but this remains to be proved. Should the hopes entertained regarding those articles be realised it would prove a splendid thing, but it is on the planting industry that the main reliance must be placed, and there seems no reason why planting enterprise in Borneo should not be as successful as in Ceylon, the Straits, or the Philippines, the soil and climate being alike adapted to it. The growth and development of British North Borneo must contribute to the prosperity of Hongkong, as a large part of its produce will find its way to this market, and it is also probable that in course of time, notwithstanding the disappointments of the past, Hongkong will again become directly and largely interested in the country by the investment of capital. At the annual meeting of the British North Borneo Company, held on the 6th July, the Chairman was able to give a very cheerful account of the prospects of the Company's territory and the shareholders are at last to receive a small dividend. The *Courier d'Haiphong* in a recent issue reproduces from the *Quinzaine Coloniale* an article advocating the making of a port at Tien-yen and the construction of a railway thence to Langson. Tien-yen is situated in the north of Tonkin, near Hongay and Kebao, and affords excellent anchorage. From there a railway could with ease be constructed along the Chinese frontier, and it is believed it would command a large traffic. The proposal is not a new one, having been advanced from time to time for years past, but hitherto it has not commanded sufficient support to secure its adoption. Haiphong and Hanoi, we believe, do not regard the project very favourably, as it is feared the establishment of a new deep-water port would divert a portion of the trade from those places. The fear would probably prove unfounded were the proposal adopted; for the general increase in the prosperity of the country to which the new port would give rise might be expected to contribute to



the trade of Haiphong and Hanoi more than the new port would take away from them. The reason that the proposal is again brought forward at the present juncture, however, is a fear lest the newly-opened West River should capture trade that might be commanded by Tonkin if that country had better facilities to offer. The West River and Tonkin are looked upon by our French neighbours as rival routes which must necessarily prove antagonistic, what is gained by the one being lost to the other. This is a radically wrong view of the position, for each route has its own tract of country to serve. So far as Great Britain is concerned, she could regard with equanimity the development of French routes penetrating China provided those routes were thrown open to the trade of the whole world, on equal terms, and France need certainly entertain no jealousy in respect of trade-openings secured by Great Britain, for French trade will be at liberty to freely make use of such openings if it finds it to its interest to do so.

#### ROADS IN THE HILL DISTRICT.

It is satisfactory to learn that the project for a road from Plantation Road to Magazine Gap is again under the consideration of the Government and is likely to be carried into effect. The road would be easy to construct and the work therefore need not prove an expensive one, while its advantages are obvious. It would, by placing Magazine Gap in communication with the tramway, make that locality more popular as a place of residence, because more accessible, and the constantly growing demand for residential sites in the hill district would be met to a considerable extent in that direction. We would also suggest that while the work is in hand the road should be extended from Wanchai Gap to Wongneichong Gap, forming the "Queen's Link" advocated by General BLACK as a Diamond Jubilee memorial. By this means a large building area would be opened up which could be utilised gradually as the demand grew, and in the meantime the road would at once become a popular walk and would afford residents at the Peak a ready means of reaching Happy Valley.

As to the demand for residential sites, the idea of ceasing to use the water from Pokfulam reservoir for potable purposes and throwing open the whole of the valley to building seems to be once more in the air. If that step were taken there would at once be sufficient sites available to meet the demand for some years to come, and from a residential point of view the slopes of the Pokfulam valley and the immediate neighbourhood form probably the most desirable locality in the island. The idea of abandoning the Pokfulam reservoir, however, appears to us altogether impracticable. Little more than twelve months have elapsed since the colony was suffering from a water famine, and although the supply at Tytam has since been largely augmented by catchwaters it must on the other hand be borne in mind that the population is constantly growing and that in the course of years the demand may outstrip the supply from Tytam and Pokfulam combined, not to speak of the reserve required to meet periods of abnormal drought. We cannot think that a Government would under any circumstances take the responsibility of curtailing the water supply of a large community, and perhaps giving rise to a water famine, in order to provide residential sites for a score or two of the wealthier inhabit-

ants. Tempting as the Pokfulam valley may be therefore, we are afraid those who covet building sites in it will have to be disappointed. There are already within the catchment area a considerable number of houses, which cannot now be interfered with, the land having passed into private ownership, but the decision of the Government into to dispose of any more sites where there is risk of contamination of the water supply must be regarded as a wise one. In this connection, we believe it has been generally understood that since the drainage system was introduced at the Peak all sullage water from the existing houses had been led into the drains and so carried off safely, and it was with considerable surprise that we recently learned that in some cases bath-room pipes still discharge on to the hillside. That is a matter that should receive attention.

#### THE CAUSEWAY BAY RECREATION GROUND.

The petition for the retention of the Polo Ground at Causeway Bay as a public recreation ground is, as was to be expected, receiving the general support of the European community, and it is to be hoped that the Government will see its way to grant the prayer. The danger of losing the ground was brought home to the polo players when land at North Point was purchased for oil tanks, and the matter was first publicly ventilated, in this journal, in February, 1896. We may again suggest, as on that occasion, that in the course of time a great transformation is likely to take place along the Shauiwan Road, as it is in that part of the colony that some of the best sites for manufactories are to be found, and already there is a fair showing. At East Point we have the China Sugar Refinery, at Quarry Bay the Taikoo Sugar Refinery, midway between the two we now have the Langkat oil tanks and casing works, and there are besides one or two minor industries in the neighbourhood, while others are under consideration, and it is probable that within a comparatively brief period we shall see along the whole stretch of roadway as far as Quarry Bay extensive reclamations made to obtain deep water frontage and factories of various descriptions established. The development will proceed more rapidly when the tramway, giving communication with the centre of the town and extending eastward to Shauiwan, is made. It is prudent, therefore, to take steps now for the preservation of the polo ground for the purposes of public recreation, and if the prayer of the petition be granted, of which there can be little doubt, the ground may appropriately receive a name associated with the Diamond Jubilee year and so serve as another memorial of Her Majesty's long and glorious reign.

In the Supreme Court at Shanghai on the 29th July, before Sir Nicholas Hannen, the case of the Bank of China, Japan, and the Straits, Limited v. J. A. Sullivan was heard. Judgment had been given in the Queen's Bench Division in England against the defendant for £3,652 8s. 2d. for calls on 400 shares in the winding-up of the Bank, with £8 16s. 8d. costs. The present action was brought to enforce that judgment. Defendant, who appeared in person, did not contest the case. Judgment was given for the plaintiffs accordingly. Mr. MacNeil, who appeared for the Bank, then asked on behalf of the defendant Sullivan that judgment might be entered against Mr. N. E. Cornish as the third party served in the action. A letter from Messrs. Johnson, Stokes & Master was put in in which it was stated that their client (Mr. Cornish) did not dispute the claim of Mr. Sullivan. Judgment was given as asked for.

#### THE PAY OF THE OFFICERS OF THE HONGKONG REGIMENT.

From a paragraph in an Indian contemporary it would seem that service with the Hongkong Regiment is not popular amongst the officers of the Indian Staff Corps, owing to the loss they sustain by exchange in drawing their pay. It appears that the rate of exchange was fixed at \$44 as the equivalent of R.100, but the officers of the Hongkong Regiment get 32 per cent. compensation for loss on exchange, whereas in India for this quarter they get 9 per cent. Working this out arithmetically, it will be seen that to make the pay in dollars equal to the pay in rupees an exchange of about 189 between Hongkong and India is required, whereas the present market rate is 152, so that the officers are subjected to a loss of about ten per cent., which goes a long way towards swallowing up the special allowance they receive for serving on this station. Under these circumstances the officers naturally prefer service in India, where their expenses are less and the life more agreeable, and where they always have a chance of seeing active service on the frontier with its opportunities of distinction and promotion. It is perhaps not to be expected that Hongkong should ever prove a really popular station with the Indian Staff Corps, but the grievance as to the rate of exchange adopted for pay purposes is one which there ought to be no difficulty in removing. In all other departments of the service where salaries are paid in a different currency from that in which they are fixed the exchange is adjusted periodically to correspond with the market rate, so that the officers receive approximately the real amount to which they are entitled. This is a simple matter of justice and it is difficult to imagine any reason why an exception should be made in the case of the Hongkong Regiment.

#### REVIEW.

*The Rise of the Empire.* By Sir WALTER BESANT. London: Horace, Marshall & Son. This is the first volume of "The Story of the Empire" series, edited by Howard Angus Kennedy, who writes the prologue. The volumes announced to succeed "The Rise of the Empire" are "The Story of India," by Demetrius C. Boulger; "The Story of Australasia," by Flora L. Shaw; "The Story of South Africa," by E. F. Knight; and "The Story of Canada," by Howard A. Kennedy. Further volumes are to be announced in due course. The series should prove a popular one, and Sir Walter Besant is to be congratulated on the excellence of his introductory volume. In the compass of a hundred and twenty-five small pages he handles a great subject with consummate skill. The style adopted is that of an elementary primer or popular lecture, in which the author makes a plentiful use of the first person singular and addresses his readers as "you." The scope of the book may be indicated by the headings of the chapters, which are:—1, The Making of a People; 2, The Extension of a Country; 3, Preparation; 4, The Lessons of Virginia; 5, The Empire of the West; 6, The Empire of the East; 7, The Empire of the South; 8, The Empire of the Isles; 9, The Heritage of the Race; 10, The Future of the Heritage. In "The Lessons of Virginia" we have the most graphic and succinct account of England's earliest attempts at colonisation that it has been our fortune to read.

We make the following extract from the chapter of "The future of the Heritage":—

"In a word, there are now six countries—formerly we should have said six kingdoms—namely: Great Britain and Ireland, the United States of America, the Dominion of Canada, South Africa, Australia, and New Zealand, without counting the islands which speak the same language, practically claim the same religion, have the same ancestry, obey the same



institutions, and read the same literature. They are settled on the most favoured parts of the globe, they occupy the most fertile parts, and they are, one and all, unassailable by other nations except by sea. Two of these nations are extremely wealthy and powerful—more wealthy and more powerful than any other countries in the world—the remaining four enjoy a prosperity and a standard of living unequalled anywhere else. Of five of these it may be said, without fear of contradiction, that they are firmly united, so far, in bonds of kinship and affection. The one country which is outside that bond is at present the richest and most populous of the six. It is probable that it is going to become much richer and much more populous. So, however, are the three five.

"Now the one thing needful is so to legislate, so to speak and write of each other, so to encourage each other, that this bond may be strengthened and not loosened. We want, should a time of parting arrive, to separate only in form; we want such an everlasting alliance as may make us absolutely free from the fear of any other alliance which could crush us. We do not want to go on conquering; on the contrary, we want no extension of territory, but to develop our own. The sixth of the nations may, perhaps, continue to stand aloof; if so, there is all the more reason for the five to stand together."

We find it difficult to reconcile with the references to the United States in the above and many other passages the author's advocacy of the artificial diversion to other parts of the British empire of the emigration from Great Britain to the United States. Elsewhere speaks of the United States as "the other part of this inheritance, that which belongs to the other branch of the Anglo-Saxon," and says that it is by far the richer part and more populous. Yet Sir Walter Besant would have emigration diverted from that portion of the heritage to others, and he deems it "sheer stupidity and incompetence" on the part of our Government not to do so. It seems to us, on the contrary, that a constant stream to the United States of the overflow population of the United Kingdom must be one of the surest means of preserving and promoting that sentiment of unity of race which Sir Walter values so highly and of preventing the two branches of the race drifting apart. But controversial points notwithstanding, Sir Walter's little book is a masterpiece of its kind and the reading of it will make the nerves of every Anglo-Saxon thrill with pride in the contemplation of the glorious heritage in which he is a partaker.

A sad fatality has occurred at Shanghai, a child aged five years, the son of Mr. J. Chambers, civil engineer and architect, having died shortly after taking what was supposed to be santonine. The medicine had been prescribed in two powders, one of which was administered, and after the child's death the other was sealed for analysis. An inquest was opened on the 3rd August and was adjourned for an analysis of the contents of the stomach. The *China Gazette* of the 6th says:—A very painful impression was produced to-day when it became known that Dr. Scholvien's report on his chemical analysis of the contents of the viscera of the unfortunate little boy, Wilfred A. Chambers, and of the powder similar to the one administered, revealed the presence of strychnine in large quantities. The powders contained  $\frac{1}{2}$  grain of nitrate of strychnine, enough to poison three or four men. The official dose prescribed in the pharmacopoeia is from one-twenty-fourth to one-tenth of a grain for an adult, so that for a child of four, following the usual proportions according to age, would be the one-hundred-and-twentieth to the one-fiftieth part of a grain. But strychnine is never given in this form to so young a child, and it is impossible to understand how such a mistake could have been made. It is a terrible business. Upon calling at Messrs. Voelkel and Schroeder's to-day, to speak about the matter, Mr. Voelkel declined to say anything about it, or discuss how such a mistake could be made, merely remarking that if it were shown that he had made a mistake he was prepared to stand the consequences. The report by Dr. Scholvien was sent to the British Consulate yesterday afternoon and the inquest will be resumed to-morrow morning.

## SUPREME COURT.

3rd August.

### CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

BEFORE SIR JOHN CARRINGTON (CHIEF JUSTICE).

#### THE CHARGE AGAINST INSPECTOR WITCHELL.

#### VERDICT AND SENTENCE.

The trial of Job Witchell, Inspector of Police, charged with accepting bribes from gambling house keepers, was resumed.

Hon. W. M. Goodman (Attorney-General) and Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C. (instructed by Mr. H. L. Dennys, Crown Solicitor), prosecuted and Mr. E. Robinson (instructed by Mr. G. C. C. Master) defended.

The following was the special jury:—Messrs. R. Marten, W. H. Potts, A. Findlay Smith, T. I. Rose, St. C. Michaelsen, E. W. Mitchell, and F. G. Collins.

Mr. Francis said that by his Lordship's direction, Mr. A. Seth, Deputy Registrar, with the assistance of the Court interpreter, had made an examination of the books with reference to which the jury had made an inquiry on the last day of the trial.

His Lordship said Mr. Seth had better be called as a witness.

Mr. A. Seth, Deputy Registrar of the Supreme Court, was then called. He said that since the last hearing he had examined the books produced at that hearing and also eighteen slips. The eighteen slips each contained a day's receipts and expenditure. The receipts consisted of cash and pledges. The expenditure consisted of cash, "peace" money, and sundries. The accounts were balanced daily, so that each slip showed the daily balance to credit or debit. Those daily balances were carried to what might be called the ledger. At a certain period the total losses or profits were struck and carried into the year's account. The books showed that in the 11th and 5th moons the total profit was \$34,681.08 and the total loss \$39,336.61. Having examined the books witness was able to say that the items of commissions charged in the daily sheet were carried through the whole set of books.

In cross-examination by Mr. Robinson witness said there was no statement of the year mentioned. The name, Tung Kum, did not, as far as witness knew, appear in the documents, nor did the name of No. 12. The wages averaged \$17 or \$18 a day, sundries averaged \$15, and there was a daily average in the fifth month of \$150 for commission.

In answer to his Lordship witness said that the term "commission" would cover payments made in the way of hush-money. Each of the eighteen slips dealt with one day. The ledger dealt with the period from the 29th day of the eleventh moon to the 19th day of the fifth moon. From those slips a person could get an idea of what was going on in the business. The books did not appear to be fabricated or unreal.

Sam Yeen was then re-called to state that the slips were the daily account for the fifth moon of the Wa Lane fantan business. They related to the fifth moon of this year. The item commission included hush-money. The gambling house was open from 6 a.m. until 12 p.m. Before he said the house was open from 6 p.m. until midnight.

This concluded the case for the Crown.

Mr. Robinson said he did not intend just then to address the jury at any length because he had witnesses to call. He would call Mrs. Burnett, who would prove that on the very day on which Cheng On said he had the conversation with Inspector Witchell in defendant's house Cheng On called at the house with samples of silk and he did not see the defendant that day because he was upstairs all the time. He only saw Mrs. Witchell (whom counsel could not call) and Mrs. Burnett in the dining room. Therefore Cheng On told a deliberate falsehood when he said he had a conversation with the defendant. The reason why silk was wanted was because defendant wished to send some home to a friend. The whole case rested on the evidence of Cheng On, who was

utterly unworthy of belief. The evidence would show that Cheng On did not go to the house to talk about bribes, but to take samples of silk. Counsel then pointed out the relative positions of the two men, Witchell and Cheng On. Witchell was, as the jury had heard, one of the smartest and most zealous officers in the Police Force, while Cheng On was the chief excise officer, that is, the chief native officer over the native excise officers under the Opium Farmer. The defendant knew that by being on friendly terms with the chief excise officer he would be able to procure for himself the advantage of the chief excise officer's knowledge. The defendant could procure through him "tips" which would be useful to a police officer. Another point was that the gambling houses presented a double aspect to the people connected with them. There was the capitalist who put his money into the concern, there were the police to find it out, and there were foks who were there—for what purpose? Were the foks there simply for love of gambling or to make money? They were there to make as much money as they could out of the capitalist who put his money into the illegal business. Their object was to line their own pockets. How was that done? Let the jury take Sam Yeen, who had during the past five years followed the occupation of a gambler. Bribes were paid to the police. After a time the bribes increased and increased until they came to \$150 a day, or between \$4,000 and \$5,000 a month. Did the jury think that all that money was paid to the police, or did they think it found its way into the pockets of Sam Yeen, Tung Kum, and Cheng On? Possibly some of the native police were in the pay of the men. Was it not possible that something was done at the Magistracy, from which the warrants were issued? It was easy to see that the gamblers could easily get information from the Magistracy without the Europeans being able to do so. Counsel put it that the \$150 a day was not all paid out to the police; it simply went into the pockets of Sam Yeen, who gulled the partners and persuaded them that they paid the money to the police. Clever Sam Yeen and clever Tung Kum! When the capital was lost there would be a cessation of business and a new partnership would be worked up and a new syndicate would carry on the business. The jury had it that the gambling houses were a source of great profit. So they were. But "for ways that are dark and tricks that are vain the heathen Chinese is peculiar." It was very clear how the money went. Men of the kidney of Sam Yeen, Tung Kum, and Cheng On encouraged the syndicate to put in their money, which they disposed of. The list represented the trick of the foks who were cheating their employers. The partners had no check on their foks, and the partners were absolutely in the hands of the foks. The partners were the milch cows. From a common sense point of view the list was absolutely to be disregarded. Take the Government House entry. A lukong in the employ of Government House says, "Pay me 30 cents; if you do not I am in a position to give information." The money is paid because the lukong is in a position to give information. Sam Yeen had said, "Not a cent would I have paid Cheng On if he had come on his own account." That was certainly an economy of the truth, because Sam Yeen had perhaps forgotten that he had already admitted paying to Cheng On on his own account \$3.50 every five days or 70 cents a day. Cheng On said to himself, "I have got the entrée to the Inspector's house; I see him at the Magistracy; I make a point of going to him and speaking to him; I am a friend of the Inspector and these gambling people know I am a friend. I will tell them my friend the Inspector wants some money and they are bound to believe me, and I will put the money in my own pocket." If they thought he was not an emissary of the Inspector he could say to them, "All right, you can see me go into the Inspector's house." Cheng On had ingratiated himself with the Inspector and the Inspector allowed him in his house because he could obtain good information from Cheng On. Where was the proof that defendant was paid the money? If such evidence was to convict a respectable man counsel was of opinion that there was not a firm in the place but must be under suspicion. Counsel did not know if a



man like Cheng On could touch the gentlemen of the jury in civil life, but in official life every policeman in Hongkong could not help feeling that his character was in the hands of the Chinese; that is, if evidence of Chinese was to be believed. And such Chinese, too! One was a convicted gambler and the others associates of professional gamblers. In regard to Cheng On, he was in custody under a banishment warrant. His only escape from that banishment was by telling this story. He had been the chief excise officer and he knew that the officers of the Imperial Maritime Customs of China were all round the Chinese frontier to stop the smuggling of opium. By whom? Cheng On would not like to go over the Chinese border; he had every inducement not to go and he resolved to save himself at the expense of another. He had arranged this matter. Cheng On's only chance of escape was by accusing Witchell for his own protection. He was told to tell the truth. When that was said by a high executive officer to a man under banishment, and who knew the consequences of being banished, it amounted to telling him to give incriminating evidence. He could hardly help himself because he had given himself away to Sam Yeen in saying that he came on behalf of the defendant. If Cheng On had told the truth would his case have been considered by the Government? Who was to be the judge of the truth? Counsel then said that supposing by chance Mr. Francis, who had a great reputation amongst the Chinese, had a client who kept a gambling house and he wanted to get something good out of Mr. Francis. If that man went to the gambling house keeper and said, "If you do not pay me something I will tell Mr. Francis and he will tell the Chief of Police and make it pretty hot for you." In that case the jury would have found in the book the entry—"Francis, \$1."

Mrs. Burnett was then called. She said she went to the defendant's house on the 11th March, when Cheng On took some samples of silk there. Mrs. Witchell saw him, but defendant did not. Cheng On remained in the house about ten minutes. Defendant was upstairs during all that time.

Cross-examined by Mr. Francis—The samples of silk were left in the house by Cheng On.

Acting Chief Inspector Mackie was the next witness. He said—P. S. McIver and his wife went home on the 25th March last in the P. and O. steamer *Kaiser-i-Hind*. I know Watson, the clerk at the Goal.

His Lordship thought that this was going rather outside the case and Mr. Robinson asked no further questions.

This concluded the evidence for the defence.

The Attorney-General then asked permission to call the silk mercer.

His Lordship thought it was not admissible to call that man as the silk might have been bought from somebody else in March.

Mr. Robinson finally addressed the jury and said that a few words would be sufficient to put the defendant's view of the case before the jury. He had already addressed them on the main points and there were only a few incidental points that he need refer to. Counsel referred to what he called the growth of the case since the hearing at the Magistracy and commented upon the discrepancies in the evidence of Sam Yeen and Cheng On and also upon the fact that the list, which was said to be three years old, was not in the least dirty or frayed, while the ink was in parts bright. The books of account were put in for the purpose—

Mr. Francis said that the defence called for the books; the prosecution did not put them in.

Mr. Robinson submitted that as the counsel for the Crown in his opening statement referred to a complete set of books being found in the gambling house giving the accounts of the business it followed that they became evidence.

His Lordship said the prosecution could not have put in the books.

Mr. Robinson—Then how very reprehensible to refer to them.

His Lordship said Mr. Francis had merely given a description of the books.

Mr. Robinson—Having made that statement and it having been published in the Press from the Magistracy downwards, it would have

been like shirking, bilking, and being afraid of them if an attempt had been made to keep them out. I was not afraid of them.

His Lordship—If Mr. Francis had tendered these books as evidence against the defendant I should have refused to receive them and I should have directed the jury, in my summing up, to dismiss from their minds all they had heard or read of any entries.

Mr. Robinson—Conventionally, my Lord, that would have been perfectly satisfactory, but practically—

His Lordship—Then you do not give the jury any sense for getting rid of a thing they have heard.

Mr. Robinson—I can only speak that from my own experience it is very hard to get rid of what one has heard.

Continuing his speech, counsel said the foks had to say, "We must corrupt the police," in order to get the hush-money from their employers. The employers were helpless and they said, "All right, we will pay the police." The story was merely a stalking horse behind which the foks, the servants, under the pretence of bribing the police, put most of the money into their own pockets. In regard to Cheng On's story of his interview with defendant the jury had heard the statement of Mrs. Burnett. The jury had seen Cheng On and had noticed his demeanour; they knew that Inspector Witchell had faithfully and zealously served in the Police Force for fifteen years, and they had the statement of Mrs. Burnett, who was an honest English woman, that she knew Cheng On, that she saw him on the 11th March, that he did not see the defendant. The jury had to judge between that man, Cheng On, and that woman.

Mr. Francis then addressed the jury and said that while a good character was valuable to a man and he was entitled to the benefit in a doubtful case, no matter how good his character might be or how long continued he may have borne that character, if the witnesses satisfied the jury beyond reasonable doubt that he was guilty of the offence with which he stood charged, that good character could not be taken into consideration. If there was a doubt in any case a defendant was entitled doubly to the benefit of the doubt if he was a man of good character. The jury would weigh the evidence very carefully and say whether the defendant had accepted hush-money not to report the existence of the gambling house. It was clear that there were three or four gambling houses carrying on an extensive business in the colony quite unchecked by what was considered one of the best police forces in the East, and there must have been a considerable amount of corruption in the Police Force before that state of things could have existed. Counsel submitted that whether the books were ill-kept or not there was no doubt they were perfectly *bona fide*. After their seizure by the Captain Superintendent of Police what was his duty? He suspended officers, banished Chinese detectives, and instituted a general inquiry into the state of the Police Force. There was no special inquiry against Inspector Witchell. The three men were arrested and they were detained to give evidence, but there was absolutely no malice shown against the defendant. Counsel again referred to the fact that the Police Force must have been corrupted or these gambling houses could not have kept open from dawn till midnight.

His Lordship asked Mr. Francis to confine himself to the case of the defendant and to argue that he must have known of the existence of the houses.

Mr. Francis, continuing, said that if a single charge had been brought against a member of the Police Force the jury would have required the strongest and most unmistakable proof as the thing would have been improbable. Here the jury had had it brought home to them that as regards any member of the Police Force it was not, to put it mildly, impossible that he may have been cognizant of the existence of the houses, and it might be capable of proof that the defendant was one of the persons who received bribes to shut his eyes to the existence of the houses. Beyond that, counsel did not ask the jury to attach any importance whatever to the facts which had been proved. The defence set up

was that Cheong On did not pay bribes to Inspector Witchell, but pocketed them himself. There was not a tittle of evidence to support that suggestion, and it was a pure effect of imagination, and a very poor one, too. Did the jury think that the men keeping the gambling houses did not ascertain whether they were being swindled? The fact that daily balances were struck showed that they looked after their own interests and ascertained where all the money went to. Counsel also referred to the letter which the Captain Superintendent of Police received from some one stating that gambling existed in Kwai Wa Lane and which he mentioned only to Inspector Witchell and Mrs. May, and to the evidence given by Cheng On that the defendant asked who was the — who wrote the letter to the Captain Superintendent. Cheng On could not possibly have given that evidence unless the defendant had asked the question. There was absolutely no reason why Cheng On's evidence should be disbelieved. As regards Mrs. Burnett, it was quite possible that her story was true with the exception of the date. Did they think that she could recognize Cheng On after having seen him only once? It was highly improbable. Cheng On had said he had never seen her, but it was possible that Cheng On had seen her but had forgotten her. No evidence had been given that any silk had been forwarded to any friend of the defendant.

Defendant—My Lord, here is a letter showing the receipt of it in South Wales.

His Lordship asked the defendant not to interrupt.

Mr. Francis, continuing, said that if the jury had no reasonable doubt of Cheng On's evidence he asked them in the interests of justice to find the defendant guilty.

Mr. Robinson said that from the point of view so becomingly and properly uttered by his learned friend, "in the interests of justice," he asked whether there would be any objection to the letter mentioned by defendant being produced.

His Lordship thought that such a course would not be regular.

Mr. Robinson said of course he could not prove the letter else he would have done so, but he could produce the letter and the envelope, with the post mark.

His Lordship said the letter could not be admitted at that stage.

His Lordship commenced summing up at 5.20 and said that as a late hour had been reached and the jury had followed the evidence so carefully he would be less particular in going into all the evidence that had been given. After explaining the law on the question and detailing various points in the information his Lordship said the contest took place with reference to the receipt of money by the defendant. If they thought that the money was received under the circumstances referred to there could be no doubt that the defendant was guilty. His Lordship could not help thinking that the length of the case had been greatly extended by the fact that the defence had taken upon themselves the burden of the police case generally, having an eye, so to speak, to the position of the members of the Police Force. He founded those observations on two reasons. In the first place, Mr. May underwent a very long and severe cross-examination: he was under cross-examination for practically a whole day. The other reason was the introduction of the books and papers. Both those points and the way with which the points were dealt made him think that the defendant had committed an error in judgment as they very much prolonged the case and made it more embarrassing to arrive at a right conclusion. His Lordship's own view in regard to the books was that if the books were ruled not to be corroborative evidence in any way against the defendant, then the result was that the defendant had set up a bogey in order to knock it down, and he had taken a great deal of time to do it; whereas if the jury arrived at the conclusion that the books did corroborate the story the defence had undoubtedly admitted an enemy in the camp by asking for the books. If the books had not been produced his Lordship would have asked the jury to dismiss from their minds anything they might have heard or read in the newspapers regarding the entries in the books, and he was quite certain the jury would



have acted on those instructions. So also in regard to the general position of the police. There was no need to make out that Captain May had mismanaged the police in regard to the gambling houses. Captain May really knew very little about this particular case. His evidence, as bearing upon the defendant, was very short and simple and confined to a few general particulars, but in order, so to speak, to break down the case as affecting the whole of the police, the defence went for Captain May and took him over the whole ground and, his Lordship was going to say, with some asperity. In regard to the Chinese witnesses the jury would consider their demeanour and the manner in which they gave their evidence. It appeared to his Lordship that Cheng On and Tung Kum stood their cross-examination very well. Mr. May underwent his cross-examination in a very fair and honest manner. One important point that came out in his cross-examination was that there was no vestige of ill-feeling on his part towards the defendant, that he had no desire to see the defendant punished from any personal motives, and that he was doing his duty in this matter as a public officer only. He spoke in high terms of the defendant and they had it on all hands that the defendant was an officer of great energy, ability, and zeal. Juries naturally gave the benefit of any doubt to a man of a good character and the jury would no doubt bear that in mind. With regard to Cheng On and Tung Kum they were scarcely cross-examined at all. They were not closely questioned; they were not dragged over the harrow, so to speak. The cross-examination was conducted in a somewhat general manner and the witnesses certainly did not break down under it. It appeared to his Lordship that Sam Yeen was not a satisfactory witness under cross-examination; he was somewhat uncertain and shifty. His Lordship then proceeded with a general statement of the case and in regard to the letter sent to Mr. May asked if the jury thought that Cheng On could have known of that letter if the defendant had not told him about it. The jury had also to remember that, according to Cheng On's statement, Mr. May went to the house in Kwai Wa Lane, whereas he did not go, and it was most probable that the defendant would know whether Mr. May went or not. Speaking of the interview of the 11th March deposed to by Cheng On, his Lordship pointed out that the statement was a long one and the jury would have to consider whether defendant would not beat about the bush and not ask Cheng On straight off to pay him bribes. Speaking of the other names in the list his Lordship had ruled that they could not go into the general question. They were not trying the other members of the Police Force but only the defendant. When they found a number of names appearing in a list it was impossible according to the rules of evidence and reason for them to take up the list to see whether or not the bribes had been paid to the persons or not. Those were side issues, which would involve interminable inquiries and the appearance of all those persons before the Court. It was entirely a collateral issue whether Inspector Mann had taken bribes or not. Inspector Mann may have taken bribes or he may not. They did not know and they did not care; they were simply inquiring whether the defendant took bribes. Suppose the Governor's name appeared there for \$5 and the General's for \$3. The jury would have said, "We will not call the Governor and we will not call the General," and they would also say to themselves, "It is impossible that these two gentlemen—these two high officers—would receive bribes." The names of Inspector Mann and Acting Inspector Hall appeared in the books and the defence asked the jury to say that the list could not be accepted as genuine because those two men were not stationed in the gambling sections. But both men had been in the Central District and it also appeared that they were still in the colony. Therefore the conclusion was that it was not impossible or not highly improbable or absurd that their names should be in the list. They might have been receiving bribes or they might not, but the jury were not charged with that issue. The presence of their names in the list did not render the list the least absurd or unreliable. His

Lordship then referred to the evidence for the defence. If the jury believed Mrs. Burnett had not mistaken the time and place it was quite clear that Cheng On had told what was not the truth, but they must weigh the evidence most carefully and consider which of them gave the more likely evidence. They must not consider the evidence on the broad question of Chinese and Europeans. That would be a mistake. It was quite possible for a Chinaman to tell the truth and for a European to tell a falsehood and *vice versa*. They had to look at it in the light of the way the evidence was given and in the light of the probabilities of the case. His Lordship concluded as follows—Gentlemen of the jury, this case is important both from the point of view of the Government and from the point of view of the defendant. It is important from the point of view of the Government because if corruption exists in the Police Force it is essential that they should detect it and that they should prove it and punish it. Nothing can be more important from the point of view of the Government than that. If they get a *prima facie* case against a principal member of the Police Force it is important that they shall bring it forward and prove it if they can; otherwise, gentlemen, the whole administration of the Government fails. If you have corruption in the public service, and especially in the Police Force, then, as I say, you are landed in a series of evils of which no man can see the end. Therefore the case is very important from the Government point of view. I think myself that the moment Captain May made that seizure and had *prima facie* ground for thinking that the No. 12 mentioned in the list was the defendant, his plain duty was to have this case investigated fully before the Magistrate and, if the Magistrate sent it forward, in this court also. You will also bear in mind that the case is in the last degree important to the defendant. Of course it is his bounden duty to fight the case to the end. If this charge is proved he not only undergoes punishment, but he is a disgraced and ruined man for life, because he would be adjudged unworthy of any office of trust and honour that might be within his reach. Therefore, as I have said, the case has taken a long time, but it is one of vast importance and I am glad to think that we have had a fair and impartial inquiry. I am glad to think that you have listened attentively to the evidence and to the addresses of counsel, and I am quite certain you are actuated by only one desire—to do right in this matter according to your oaths between the Crown and the defendant, and I do trust that your intelligence will guide you to a right decision.

Mr. Robinson asked his Lordship to remind the jury that if they were unable to agree after a reasonable time the verdict of five of their number could be given.

His Lordship told the jury this and that a reasonable time was about one hour.

The jury retired to consider their verdict at 6.55.

Mr. Robinson asked if the defendant could be allowed a seat.

His Lordship—Certainly. I should like to say, Mr. Robinson, that if I had thought of it before I should have directed the Indian guard to be withdrawn in deference to his being an Inspector of Police. However, it is too late now.

The defendant was then accommodated with a seat outside the dock.

The jury returned into court at 7.15 and defendant re-entered the dock.

The Clerk of the Court—Have you agreed upon your verdict? Do you find Job Witchell guilty or not guilty?

The Foreman—Guilty.

The Clerk of the Court—Are you unanimous?

The Foreman—Yes. The jury would like to recommend the defendant to the mercy of the Court in consideration of his previous good conduct.

Defendant—May it please you, my Lord, will you kindly allow me to read this letter from Tenby in acknowledgement of the receipt of the silk?

His Lordship—We cannot go into that now. Do you wish to say anything with regard to sentence?

Defendant—My Lord, as I have been found guilty on this abominable charge I beg the mercy of the Court. I have a family of five children and a European wife, my Lord, solely dependent on me. My sole estate in Hongkong at the present time, and when this charge was instigated against me, was \$1,198 for ten years, my Lord, and I will give you my power of attorney to go to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank or any other place to see my investments. That is my sole estate, my Lord, except my household goods and family.

His Lordship—Mr. Attorney, I do not think there is any power to award hard labour? There is no local statute empowering me to award hard labour?

The Attorney-General—No, my Lord.

His Lordship—Defendant, I am very sorry indeed to see an intelligent and energetic officer as you fallen so low as this.

Defendant—I have not fallen, my Lord.

His Lordship—I give full effect to the recommendation of the jury and direct that you be imprisoned for six months.

Defendant (excitedly)—My Lord, it is imposing an infamy on me.

His Lordship—You must be quiet.

Defendant—Mr. May, on his death bed, will repent of the gross perjury he committed and which I explained to you, my Lord, for upon my word of honour and upon my oath—

His Lordship—If you do not stop your improper behaviour I shall only increase the punishment. You ought to know better. Remove the defendant.

The defendant was then removed from the court and taken to Victoria Gaol in a chair.

9th August.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

JOHNSON, STOKES, AND MASTER V.  
GROSSMANN AND CO.

Plaintiffs sought to recover \$338.50, being the amount due for work done and money expended as solicitors for the defendants.

Mr. H. L. Denny appeared for the plaintiffs and Mr. Reece for the defendants.

The case was partly heard on the 15th July.

After hearing further evidence his Lordship reserved his decision.

#### RELEASE OF CHENG ON AND TUNG KUM.

On the 4th August, Cheng On and Tung Kum, who were held in custody under banishment warrants and who gave evidence against Inspector Witchell, were released from Victoria Gaol, the warrants against them having been withdrawn.

#### THE CHARGES AGAINST MR. OSMUND AND INSPECTOR HORE.

DECISION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

On the 9th August, the decision of the Executive Council respecting the charges of accepting bribes preferred against Mr. C. Osmund, first clerk in the Registrar-General's Office, and Sanitary Inspector Hore, was made known. The Council found that both men had failed to exculpate themselves. Mr. Osmund has been called upon to resign on a reduced pension, and Sanitary Inspector Hore has been dismissed from the public service. The decision in each case has of course to be confirmed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. Apparently the Council has found a great difference in the gravity of the two cases, and it would appear only fair to both the officers concerned and to the public that the grounds of the distinction should be made known.

There has been something like a riot at the Cash Mint at Soochow, in consequence of a dispute between the manager and the workmen. Over 300 of the labourers attacked the building with stones and made things very lively for an hour or so until the arrival of the mandarins, who with their forces scattered the rioters.



**A THIEF BEATEN TO DEATH.**

About one o'clock in the afternoon of the 7th August, a coolie stole a bamboo hat and a bag from a woman's sampan lying on the foreshore at Taikoktsui. The woman gave an alarm and the thief was at once chased by four men, who caught him and then murdered him by beating him to death with poles. The culprits then ran away. The body was discovered about two hours later by an Indian constable 120 yards away from the sampan and he at once communicated with the Police Station, the result being that in a short time a man, who is a carpenter, was arrested on suspicion of being concerned in the crime. He denied the charge. The dead body of the coolie bears several marks of violence on the head and back. The prisoner was brought before the Magistrate and remanded.

**DEATH OF A P. AND O. C. IEF OFFICER.**

A sad occurrence took place in the harbour on the 7th August. About six o'clock in the afternoon Mr. H. R. Stay, chief officer of the P. & O. steamer *Shanghai*, decided to have a swim in the harbour, he having concluded his day's duties. He dived off the ship's railing and at once returned to the vessel, which was lying at the Kowloon wharf, and walked up the gangway. He dived into the water a second time and was making for a lighter when he showed signs of weakness. A boat hook was held out to him, which he clutched, but he released his hold and was evidently in great distress. A couple of Lascar sailors, seeing the helpless condition of the chief officer, pluckily sprang into the water and brought Mr. Stay to the lighter. Surgeon-Captain Watson and the surgeon of the *Empress of China* were boating in the vicinity and they at once proceeded to the lighter and endeavoured to restore Mr. Stay by means of artificial respiration, this treatment being applied for nearly two hours, a number of Jack Tars, who were returning to shore from burying a comrade, also rendering assistance. Mr. Stay, however, did not recover. He was a heavily built man and it is supposed that he died from apoplexy and not from drowning, as it is said he was not in the water above three minutes altogether. The deceased, who leaves a widow and three children, had been in the service of the P. & O. Company for several years and was most popular amongst all the crew.

**CHARGE OF MANSLAUGHTER.**

Another death by violence has occurred in the colony, the victim being a boy, age 18 years, and his alleged assailant a shopkeeper named Cheung Chuk. About 3.30 p.m. on the 8th August, the boy, whose name is Li Chu, and who was employed as a cook at No. 23, Tai Wong Street, Wanchai, was sent to make some purchases in the Wanchai market. After making these purchases he went to a shop at 47, Nullah Lane, where he ordered some seaweed. It turned out that he had not sufficient money to pay for the seaweed and a quarrel took place between him and Cheung Chuk, the shopkeeper who served him, the result being that Cheung Chuk struck the boy a blow on the left side, causing him to fall to the ground. He got up again, picked up the provisions which he had dropped, and then walked home to Tai Wong Street. Here he became very ill and vomited, and in consequence of his statement his master and some foks carried him back to 47, Nullah Lane and then reported the matter to Inspector Mann at No. 2 Police Station. The Inspector at once proceeded to 47, Nullah Lane and sent the boy, who appeared to be seriously ill, to the hospital. Cheung Chuk had by this time cleared out of the shop and Inspector Mann adopted the ruse of telling the people in the shop that the boy was not seriously injured. The Inspector then left and twenty minutes later Cheung Chuk put in an appearance and he was arrested by a Chinese constable. At the hospital the boy was found to be so seriously injured that it was deemed advisable to have his dying deposition taken, and about eight o'clock Hon. H. E. Wodehouse at-

tended the hospital and took the evidence of the boy, who died an hour and a half later. The prisoner was taken before the Magistrate yesterday and remanded.

**HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.**

A meeting of the Hongkong Sanitary Board was held at the offices on the 5th August. Dr. J. M. Atkinson (Principal Civil Medical Officer) presided, and there were also present—Hon. F. H. May (Captain Superintendent of Police), Hon. W. Chatham (Acting Director of Public Works), Dr. Clark (Medical Officer of Health), and Mr. H. McCallum (Secretary).

**MINUTES.**

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

**REPORTS.**

The Surveyor's second quarterly report for 1897 was laid on the table. Repairs to drainage arrangements have been carried out in 49 instances during the quarter, making a total of 145 for the half year. There have been 230 houses in hand for repairs during the half year and 85 are carried forward. Twenty-four certificates have been granted during the quarter to 92 houses as having been built in accordance with the provisions of section 74 of Ordinance 24 of 1887.

The report of Inspector William Fisher, the officer performing the duties of the Colonial Veterinary Surgeon, showed that during the quarter ended 30th June last no cases of infectious or contagious disease among animals had been brought to his notice. The markets and slaughterhouses are in good working order.

**MORTALITY RETURNS.**

For the week ended 17th July the rate of mortality in the colony was 20.2 per 1,000 per annum as against 17.9 for the corresponding period of last year. For the week ended 24th July the rate was 25.5 as compared with 20.5 for the corresponding period of last year.

**ADJOURNMENT.**

The Board adjourned until Thursday week.

**THE POLO TOURNAMENT.**

The final match of the Polo tournament, which owing to the weather had been postponed two or three times, came off on the 6th August. Rain held off and a steady hot sun rendered the ground fit to play on. The Band of the Regiment was in attendance, and in spite of the late hour at which it was definitely fixed that the match should come off, a number of ladies put in an appearance.

The competing teams were the Civilians and the 14th Regiment as under:—

14th Regiment.	Civilians.
Mr. Tew, back	Hon. T. H. Whitehead, back
Mr. Wood, 3	Mr. Landale, 3
Mr. Spencer, 2	Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G., 2
Mr. Gordon, 1	Mr. Platt, 1

The Civilians won the toss, and chose to defend the Stable goal end with their backs to the sun.

The first quarter was a good one, play being fairly even. The Civilians being better mounted were able to cope with the undoubted superiority in combination of the Regiment; although at the same time it must be mentioned that it was noticed by many that the ponies of the Civilians seemed at times to be so fast that they had great difficulty in keeping them within the limits of the ground. Wood scored the first goal, and throughout the first quarter got run after run, the pace of his pony making it somewhat hard for the rest of his side to back him up. Nothing further was scored, but the Regiment looked dangerous on more than one occasion, and indeed the bell rung as Wood had worked himself clear with a fine dashing run, and appeared very like scoring.

The second quarter was looked forward to with a great deal of interest, as naturally the best ponies had been reserved, and the Civilians having a larger choice, it was thought by many that the damage done might be repaired. On the ball being thrown in Wood secured it, and after a long run down the ground scored a subsidiary. He very shortly followed this up by a goal out of a scrimmage. The whole character of the play seemed to change now; it became sticky and slow. The combination so noticeable in the first quarter in the Regt. team went to pieces;

No. 1 had d flently with his pony; there seemed to be more talk than action, and if Wood had not maintained his high standard of play, and the Civilians had improved theirs, it might still have fared badly with the Regiment. Whitehead did good service for his side; his hitting was sure and several of his runs were very useful; but he was not backed up, though Platt played well and made valiant attempts to ride Wood and Tew. Landale appeared to have consistent hard luck, the pony he rode in the first quarter being one of the fastest on the ground, but young and untrained, while in the second quarter his mount pulled terribly. On one occasion this player looked like scoring for a certainty, but unfortunately one of his own side interfered with him. One more goal was scored by the Regiment before the final bellrang, the game thus ending 14th Regiment 3 goals and 2 subsidiaries to the Civilians' nil; and there is no doubt the better side won.

Capt. Burney, R.A., officiated as umpire, and the time was kept most accurately by a very consistent onlooker of the game.

The Cup, which already bears the name of the Regiment, was presented to Mr. Wood, the Captain of the Regimental Team, by Mrs. Holland, who very graciously expressed the pleasure the occasion afforded her. Three cheers were then given for the winning team, which was responded to by three for the civilians, and Mr. Whitehead intimated that though beaten they were not disheartened and trusted that the Regiment might remain long enough in Hongkong for the Civilians to try conclusions with them once again.

**SPORT.****HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.****CAPTAIN'S CUP FOR AUGUST.**

The usual monthly competition was held from the 7th to 9th inst., but brought out a very meagre list of names. For the "Cup" only 10 members entered, and not a single card was returned. Comment is superfluous, though it cannot be considered very complimentary to the donor of the cup. Mr. Tomes again figures as the winner of the subscribed money, the returns for which, as given below, do not exhibit high class play:—

Mr. C. A. Tomes	95	8	87
Mr. W. Taylor	101	13	88
Mr. G. Stewart	92	3	89
Mr. C. Palmer	107	11	96
11 entries.			

**RAUB.**

The following is the Acting Manager's Report for the five weeks ending the 22nd July, 1897, to the Directors of the Raub Australian Gold Mining Company, Limited:—

Gentlemen,—I have the honour to herewith forward you my report for the five weeks, ending on the above date.

Raub Hole.—No. 2 shaft, 220 feet level. As already reported, we have for the present stopped the main south drive and have started to cross-cut east and west from the end of this drive, to try and pick up the gold bearing shoot of ore again. The west crosscut is now about 14 feet in clean country with not a sign of quartz on it. I have stopped this and am now crosscutting East, and am about 3 ft. in with quartz leaders showing in the face, but as yet I have not seen any gold on them. I will continue this crosscut a few feet further, and, should we not cut any quartz, will stop it until the stopes are brought up to the face.

Stopes.—In the leading stope over the back of the south level, the lode is only a few inches thick of low grade ore. In the other stopes over this, the lode increases in size up to about 13 inches in the top stope, and carries very good gold. There is no work being done above the intermediate level, as the ore shoot is worked out. In the stopes going north from the No. 2 winze, the lode in the face of the leading stope is small but carries fair gold. In the next stopes the lode is larger and carries better gold.

West Crosscut.—There is no change to report here. The small rich leader that we were carrying in with this drive has cut out. We are still in nice black slate. The water in this



drive has eased off very much. The total distance of this crosscut from the shaft is now 262 feet.

North Drive on lode termination.—There is no change whatever in this drive, the 4 feet of stone still continues in the face, but does not carry any gold. The total distance this drive is now in is 194 feet.

Bukit Koman.—No. 1 Level North. This lode will average fully 8 feet thick of good solid quartz, which carries very fair gold in the face, the best gold I have seen in this part of the mine for many months. In the leaders on the west side of the lode, I have also seen very good gold. We are now able to work these to advantage, as we have sunk an air shaft—No. 3 South. This shaft holed through to the top stopes on leader formation at a depth of 66 feet, and has greatly improved the ventilation in this part of the mine. In sinking this air shaft, we cut some leaders over 18 in. thick in which very nice gold could be seen; the prospects in this part of the mine have, if anything, improved since the last report. This drive is now in a total distance from the main crosscut of 478 feet.

In the South Level, the prospects are not nearly as good as they were, the quartz on the foot-wall having entirely cut out, and, with the exception of a quartz leader occasionally, there is no quartz in the face whatever. In the face of the drive the water has eased off. I take this as an indication that we are getting into another run of country. This drive is now in a total distance from the main crosscut of 644 feet. I will continue it a few feet further, and then crosscut to the east to try and pick up the ore again.

In the Leading Stope over the back of this drive and about 60ft. from the face, we are taking it out about 12in. wide. It is very mullocky, nearly all the solid quartz having cut out. There are several quartz leaders carrying very good gold all through the face of the stope. We have to take it out this width, so as to work these leaders.

In the 2nd Stope coming south from the No. 2 Air Shaft, there is no change to report. The stone is about 12ft. wide, and continues to carry very nice gold.

Winze No. 1 South to connect Nos. 1 and 2 levels is now down a total depth of 63ft., and carries fair gold, the whole of it is being sent to the mill for crushing.

No. 3 South Air Shaft.—This air-shaft is being sunk 200ft. south from the No. 2 south air shaft, to ventilate and get timber and mullock into the stopes. It is down over 70ft., and is now in nice solid quartz, which carries fair gold. I don't know the size of the lode; it is the full width of the shaft 6ft. by 3ft. and not through it.

No. 2 Level.—The lode in the south drive is about 11 ft. thick, and carries very nice gold, especially on the east side, in which gold can be plainly seen in breaking the stone. The total distance of this drive from the main crosscut is now 166 ft.

North Drive. The lode in this face is about 10 ft. wide of nice solid quartz, carrying fair gold, and is now in a total distance from the main crosscut of 125 ft.

Bukit Jellis Besar.—Since the last report we have driven a further distance south of 34 ft. on the lode, making a total distance of 64 ft. south from the West crosscut, carrying very good gold all the way. Before leaving, Mr. Bibby located a site for a permanent engine shaft to work the lode at a depth, the present shaft being only a prospecting one. We have cleared the site, fixed the collar, and have sunk and timbered the shaft to a depth of over 18 ft. This shaft is 14 ft. by 5 ft. clear of timber, and is being timbered with 8 in. by 4 in. Senah timber. We are also driving an adit a few feet above the level of the swamp to carry off the mine water from the pumps, and, by doing so, save about 50 ft. of pumping.

Bukit Hitam.—This prospecting shaft is now sunk and timbered to a depth of 59 ft. At this depth the water proved too strong for manual labour, and we had to stop it for the present. As soon as I can spare a pump, I will resume sinking here, as I think this place warrants a good trial.

Western Lode.—At the date of the last report, we had commenced cross-cutting East and

West to try and pick up a payable ore shoot. The East cross-cut was driven 20 ft. and the West cross-cut 22½ ft., but nothing payable was cut. We have stopped this for the present.

Battery.—This has been kept going steadily during the past month. On Monday, the 5th inst., a general clean-up of the battery took place for the 9 weeks ending on the above date, when 2,438 tons of quartz yielded 2,119 oz. 15 dwts. 0 grs. smelted gold, being an average of 17 dwts. 9½ grs. per ton of ore crushed. The following are the particulars of the ore crushed:—

Bukit Koman .....	2,276 tons
Raub Hole .....	162 "

Total .....

Battery resumed crushing at 10 p.m. the same evening, and has continued steadily since.

General.—The health of the camp, I regret to say, has not improved, at present. Mr. Bibby and three of the European staff are on sick leave.

GILBERT B. WHYTE,  
Acting Mining Manager.

### THE QUEEN AND EUREKA MINES.

Messrs. John D. Humphreys & Son, General Managers of Olivers Freehold Mines, Limited, inform us that they have received the following telegram from Australia:—

"A crushing of 150 tons of quartz from 'Eureka' has yielded ¼ an ounce to the ton. Developments promise well."

The following letters were received by the Whampoa:—

OLIVERS FREEHOLD MINES, LIMITED.  
Mount Macdonald,  
15th July, 1897.

Eureka.—Good progressive work is being done at this mine, the main drives north at the 150 and 200 foot levels are being pushed ahead as speedily as possible, and also the main drive south at the 200 foot level. Stopping is being carried on at the back of both levels. This latter work can be carried on more extensively as soon as the new battery is erected, when we hope to treat at least double the quantity now being treated by the old, inefficient battery. The drive north at the 200 foot level has been extended a total of 114 feet with lode in the end 10 feet wide and showing gold. The south drive is now 63 feet, and the reef 5 feet wide. This makes a total of 177 feet on the course of the reef, the whole of which will with the battery about to be erected pay well. At the 150 foot level the north drive has been extended to 63 feet and for some distance the reef in this drive has been small, but has widened out to 18 inches and is still improving in size, showing gold. Stopping is being carried on above this level opposite the main shaft and north of the rise. The reef here is small but of fair quality. Good progress is being made with air and mullock shaft mentioned in last reports. The work is somewhat difficult owing to the close proximity of the old surface workings. However, we hope to soon get below the old workings and into solid ground, when the work will be not only less difficult but much safer.

Main Shaft.—All things considered good progress is being made with the sinking of this shaft; total below 200ft. level is now 30 feet with very nice looking country coming in from the east side; and we have every confidence that the reef will be cut in from 10 to 12 feet from present depth. We have also two men sinking prospecting shaft on G. L. 35 and good progress is being made.

P. pro. JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON.  
C. J. WILLMOTT.

### NEW BALMORAL GOLD MINING CO., LIMITED.

Mount Macdonald  
15th July, 1897.

Queen Mine.—Since last report work is still being confined to sinking the main shaft, and the contractors are making good progress with the work. On the completion of their contract for 100 feet, 68 feet of which has now been sunk, the shaft will be 311 feet from the surface; after which it will be necessary to start the winding engine, which has been removed to a proper position and re-erected as per previous report. Until the shaft is nearer completion

by contractors, we cannot advise as to whether it will be better to continue sinking or start to drive. The tributors at the Balmoral Mine are going on well with their work, but at present have nothing to report.

P. pro. JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON  
C. J. WILLMOTT.

### SHANGHAI ENGINEERING, SHIP-BUILDING, AND DOCK CO., LD.

The following is the report of the Board of Directors for presentation at the second ordinary general meeting to be held at the Offices of Messrs. Dodwell, Carlill & Co., Shanghai, on Monday, 16th August:—

The Directors have pleasure in submitting herewith a statement of accounts for the eight months ended April 30th, 1897, and considering the many disadvantages under which the Company has been working, the shareholders are, in their opinion, to be congratulated upon the results achieved. The balance of profit and loss account (Tls. 14,916.64) they propose to carry forward to new account.

New Dock.—The construction of this, despite hindrances caused by continued wet weather during the early part of the year, has been rapidly pushed forward, and excavation has now been carried to a depth of twenty-four feet. No serious difficulties have presented themselves, and, with the exception of the recent slight break in the coffer dam, no accidents have occurred.

Buildings are now nearing completion, and it is expected that the machine shops will be ready for the new plant on its arrival in the course of the next few months.

Land.—The Directors have been able to purchase a valuable property comprising *more* 125.81.3, which includes over 2,000 feet of river frontage. The title deeds are now all in the name of the Company. A wall, ten feet high, has been erected round that part of the property on which the Works are to be situated.

Plant and Stock have been carefully valued, and the Directors have not deemed it necessary to write off anything for depreciation.

Directors.—In accordance with the Articles of Association, Mr. Otto Meuser retires, but, being eligible, offers himself for re-election.

Auditors.—The accounts have been audited by Messrs. Wilmer Harris and Rufus F. Eastlack, but owing to the unfortunate illness of the former, he is unable to append his signature. They retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

#### PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT, 30TH APRIL, 1897.

	Dr.	Tls.
To directors' and auditors' fees .....		2,300.00
To preliminary expenses .....		2,499.65
To balance .....		14,916.64
		Tls. 19,716.29

	Cr.	Tls.
By interest on current account and investment .....		783.05
By interest accrued on fixed deposits, etc. ....		2,820.00
By net earnings for 8 months to date .....		16,097.74
By transfer fees .....		15.50
		Tls. 19,716.29

#### BALANCE SHEET, 30TH APRIL, 1897.

	ASSETS.	Tls.
Property account:—		
Land at Pootung .....		81,562.40
Buildings at Pootung, payments on account ..		19,524.68
Dock at Pootung, payments on account ..		16,383.89
Buildings at engine works .....		4,500.00
Plant account:—		
Machinery and gear at engine works and Pootung .....		84,025.72
Stock account:—		
Value of materials at engine works and Pootung .....		31,330.62
Timber account .....		1,600.00
Cash account:—		
Balance in hand and current account .....		93,335.95
Investment account:—		
10 shares Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited .....		1,840.08
Fixed deposit account:—		
With Hongkong and Shanghai Bank .....		75,000.00
With Chartered Bank of I. A. & C. ....		25,000.00
Sundry debtors:—		
Accounts in course of collection .....		72,339.24
Suspense account .....		255.13
Interest account:—		
Accrued interest .....		2,820.00
		Tls. 509,517.71



LIABILITIES.		Tls.
Capital account:—		
6,000 ordinary shares at Tls. 100	600,000	
200 founder's shares at Tls. 100	20,000	
	620,000	
Less unpaid on final call due 1st May, 1897	128,750	
		491,250.00
Sundry creditors		3,351.07
Profit and loss account:—		
Balance at credit of this account		14,916.64
		Tls. 509,517.71

## EXPLOSION AT SHANGHAI.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS."] SHANGHAI, 9th August.

The magazine at the Arsenal Camp exploded at 1 a.m. to-day. It is reported that twelve persons were injured and two killed.

Later.

Twelve Chinese were killed and four dangerously wounded. It is supposed that a high wind blew down a rotten watch-tower, which fell on the small magazine. The magazine was filled with powder and percussion capped cartridges. Numerous buildings were destroyed. The large magazine happily escaped.

## THE NEW CHINESE LOANS.

The *N. C. Daily News* of the 2nd August says:—It is reported that the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank and the Deutsche Bank, with possibly a third institution, are negotiating a gold loan of £16,000,000 to China at a low rate of interest, the price of issue to be something under 85, and the security what remains of the Customs and the salt gabelle.

The *Mercury* of the 3rd says:—

The Chinese Government is just now in active negotiations with representatives of foreign syndicates at present in Shanghai, for the loan of Tls. 100,000,000, out of which it is proposed to clear off the war indemnity, and the arrangements are so far gradually assuming something like tangible shape. It is reported that two of the syndicates may combine to handle the loan between them.

The *China Gazette* of the 2nd has the following:—

The conditions of the loan, which is now almost completed, are exactly as we stated this day week—85½ issuing price; interest 4½ per cent, secured by the remnant of the unappropriated revenue of the Imperial Maritime Customs, the lekin tax and salt gabelle. In connection with the latter two sources of revenue, we are given to understand, highly important and radical changes in the mode of collection are being discussed in Peking, and upon the satisfactory agreement of the Chinese Government to the terms proposed, depends the success of the loan, which moreover, is, we believe, only one of a series of large loans which the Imperial Government hopes to raise on the security of its internal taxation. But the latter must be put upon a satisfactory footing without rousing the provinces into a state of rebellion. Herein lies the difficulty. The high provincial authorities have all been communicated with by Peking to give their views by telegraph upon certain important reforms suggested in the manner of the collection, control, and final disposition of the internal taxes; but we only anticipate that unfavourable replies will reach Peking from the provincial capitals. The suggested reforms have created something like consternation amongst the provincial officials who see therein their present fattest prizes endangered by the anxiety of the Central Government to raise money abroad, which will be remitted to Peking direct, leaving a large share of the responsibility of paying back principal and interest upon the shoulders of the provinces, while proposing at the same time to restrict the sources of profit upon which the provincial mandarins grow fat. But the immediate necessities of the Central Government for money will probably outweigh all other considerations, and we expect to see the Bank secure the loan upon terms which are probably unprecedented in the case of a country, which, after all, owes scarcely any debt when its resources are taken into consideration. As we maintained all along, the Belgian loan, despite the silly protests of the

British, American and German Ministers, has been successfully put through upon the terms set forth at length in our issue of the 12th ult., with one or two modifications, since arranged by telegraph between Peking and Brussels.

## THE CHARGE OF MANSLAUGHTER AT SHANGHAI.

In the Supreme Court at Shanghai on the 5th August Richard Henry Ryan, quartermaster on the P. & O. steamer *Shanghai*, was charged before Sir N. J. Hannen and a jury with the manslaughter of Ko Chuang-ping by pushing him into the river on the 16th ult. Mr. H. P. Wilkinson (Acting Crown Advocate) prosecuted, the prisoner being defended by Mr. E. Nelson (Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master). The case for the prosecution was that the deceased, who was a cargo-boat coolie, lost his life through the action of the accused in pushing, or shoving, or laying his hand upon him, whilst he was upon a beam crossing the river from the pontoon at which the *Shanghai* was lying to the bank, and that in consequence of the accused's action the deceased fell into the river and was drowned. The Crown did not accuse the prisoner of having caused the man's death with malice aforethought. Although the body had not yet been recovered Mr. Wilkinson said there would be no difficulty in proving that the deceased was a living being on the 16th of July, and that he was drowned where he was said to have lost his life.

Seven Chinese witnesses gave evidence in support of the case for the prosecution.

Before calling witnesses for the defence Mr. Nelson submitted that there was no evidence of death and therefore an acquittal should be directed. In support of his contention he quoted cases, one of them being very remarkable. The mother and reputed father of a bastard child were observed to take the child to the margin of the dock at Liverpool, and, after stripping it, cast it into the dock. The body of the infant was not afterwards seen; and, as the tide of the sea flowed into and out of the dock, the learned Judge, upon the trial of the father and mother for the murder of their child, observed that it was possible the tide might have carried out the living infant; and upon this ground the jury, by his direction, acquitted the prisoners. In the case now before the Court they had a man falling into the water where there were sampans and chairs, and he (Mr. Nelson) contended as the body had not been found that the man might be alive. Therefore he asked his Lordship to direct an acquittal.

Mr. Wilkinson having replied his Lordship said he did not think the body was bound to be produced in either manslaughter or murder cases, and he thought it must be left to the jury to say whether the evidence proved that the man was dead or not.

Mr. Nelson then addressed the jury and said his witnesses would prove that the coolie alleged to be drowned slipped off the beam into the water, the prisoner not being near him at the time. The first question for the jury was whether the man was dead or not. After all the man might have got out of the water, with all the people there, and might be in hiding. The possibilities were that the man was not drowned, and that for some reasons of their own his relatives had instituted the present proceedings.

Several European witnesses for the defence having been called, his Lordship summed up.

The jury, after five minutes' consideration, returned a verdict of not guilty and the prisoner was discharged.

A fatal accident occurred a few days ago to the east of Fung-tai, on the Peking-Tientsin line, resulting in the death of an old woman and child. It appears, says the *Peking and Tientsin Times*, they were crossing the line when the train knocked them down. The Railway Company have generously defrayed all funeral expenses. Deaths on the line are not infrequently reported, as, with characteristic lack of caution, the Chinese frequently make use of the line for sleeping purposes, pillowing their heads upon the rails. As Celestials have a rooted aversion to figuring in the next world without their heads, however, it is rather surprising how reckless they are in this instance.

## THE SHANGHAI COTTON MILLS.

The four foreign-owned cotton mills are just now experiencing the beginning of what may become a serious labour difficulty in the future. The machinery put up is already happily found to be inadequate to meet the demand for yarn, and the high quality of the goods has invited a flood of orders, which cannot be fulfilled fast enough. The employees seem to be pretty well seized of the fact, for women who are chiefly employed are now standing out for and getting 28 cents and 30 cents a day for their labour, which only a few months ago was to be had for 18 cents to 20 cents. It is reported that emissaries from one mill entice the workers to another for the consideration of a cent or two a day increase; in a word "poaching" is practised. Where this will end it may not be difficult to predict, but at the outset it does not promise well for the new industry, in which so much foreign capital has been placed.—*Mercury*.

## MACAO.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Macao, 6th August.

H. E. Senhor Galhardo, the Governor, arrived last Wednesday about half-past one on his return from Japan. He was received as usual with a guard of honour, salutes, etc.

As reported in my last, invitations were sent to all the capitalists of the colony to form a syndicate or company to undertake the work of reclaiming the ground from Macao to Green Island. The meeting took place last Friday at the Inspector da Fazenda's office and the attendance was principally Chinese. The result is that the project is again below zero and as cold as ever. How could the Harbour Improvement Committee expect such men as those present at the meeting to do anything to help the Government or improve the colony? They are the men who farm the monopolies and who look only for their own benefit. Their object is to kill all the general trade in order that they may have everything in their own hands. They offered the Government money to undertake the work by itself and pay them interest, and they think that in making such an offer they have conferred a great favour. I am certain, however, that the Government would have no difficulty in securing a loan at very reasonable interest and it would be much better to deal with ordinary financiers than with such people as the monopolists, who always work for their own ends.

The Government and the Harbour Improvement Committee should abandon altogether the idea of getting private people to undertake this great work, and should carry it out entirely on Government account. I am sure that the project would ultimately yield a good income. In the reports on this subject written ten or eleven years ago by Senhor Loureiro, engineer, in conjunction with the Inspector da Fazenda, a financial statement was given showing that the Treasury could expend \$150,000 a year for harbour works. Since then the income has been increased in many ways. Monopolies have been created, a heavy tax has been placed on samshu, and houses outside the city that formerly paid no ground rent now have to do so without exception. Altogether it may be said that \$60,000 has been added to the colony's revenue. Timor at that time could draw on the Macao treasury as the Governor of that island pleased, there being no fixed limit, but now our subsidy to Timor is fixed at \$60,000 annually, so that the amount available for local improvements can now be more accurately estimated. According to the last financial statement a balance of \$143,701 remained. If the Government contracted a loan of \$500,000 for harbour improvement, the above sum of \$143,701 would be more than sufficient to repay the loan in five years with interest. But the whole of the money would not be required to begin with; \$250,000 might be raised at first and the other \$250,000 later on.

The ex Colonial Secretary is still here, drawing his monthly pay and doing nothing. This has continued now for several months and the position is becoming ridiculous. Thus is the public money wasted.

No Portuguese was included in the proposed syndicate to raise money for the harbour works. This seems disgraceful, but the fact is that Por-



Chinese capitalists prefer to invest their money in Hongkong, either on deposit with the Banks or in shares paying good dividends, rather than embark it in undertakings in this colony, where there is such uncertainty as to the burdens the Government may impose upon it. The proportion of our income that in one shape or another we are compelled to pay to the Government is out of all reason. If a person lends money to another he has to pay a tax of five per cent. on the interest he receives. Wherever money passes taxes are imposed. The Leal Senado also imposes taxes without end, and everything under its charge seems to go from bad to worse.

#### CANTON NOTES.

[FROM THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

It is reported that the sickness of His Excellency the Governor has speedily disappeared. All the officers, civil and military, of all grades of rank, visited His Excellency on the 29th ultimo to make enquiries.

A sad collision between two junks, one of which was being towed by a steam launch, occurred on the 29th ultimo at Kiangmun. Owing to a strong current, the navigation was very difficult. A junk named *Wo Cheong* was just leaving the port for Chat-hum, when a junk coming in from Hongkong, and towed by a steam-launch, bumped up against her, causing serious damage. Two passengers belonging to the *Wo Cheong* were instantly killed and eleven were severely injured. The families of the deceased are now asking the Hongkong junk for two thousand dollars as compensation, but no final decision has been arrived at.

On the 31st ultimo the Viceroy sent a civil and a military officer with three hundred soldiers to stop a fight which had broken out in a village in San-oi district. The fight is reported to have been very serious and great slaughter has taken place.

The fight which, as already reported, broke out between the Ta-tong and San-chuen villages, has not come to an end. On the 3rd instant two peasants belonging to the San-chuen village were killed by the villagers of Ta-tong while they were gathering flowers in a field. When this news became known, fire was again opened between the two villages. The Magistrate of Pun-u has asked the Sansz of the two villages to come to him to devise plans to put an end to the fight.

A gang of about one hundred robbers made an attack on a silk shop named Han-hing, in Sa-tan, on the 31st ultimo. As the place was strongly fortified and had a large police force, the robbers were unable to gain an entrance into the shop. The encounter lasted about an hour, but at last their powder and ammunition became exhausted and the robbers were forced to retreat. One of the robbers, who was seriously wounded and unable to run away, was captured. It was discovered that the captive was a very notorious robber and for his arrest a heavy reward had been offered by the Government.

#### HONGKONG.

The gambling scandal continues to be the chief subject of conversation, which now chiefly turns on what will be the result of the despatches which are being sent by this week's mail to the Secretary of State for the Colonies. No more suspensions or arrests have taken place during the week and the public are wondering what the next sensational event will be.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donation to the funds of the Hospitals:—Der A Wing, \$3.

A gambling house at 44, Stanton Street was raided by P. S. Gillies on 5th August, the master and nine men being arrested. The master was fined \$50 and the remainder \$5 each.

At 5 p.m. on 3rd August, a fire broke out in a cracker shop at Samshui-po, five houses being destroyed. None of the inmates were hurt, but Fireman McSwayd sustained slight injuries while climbing over a bamboo fence.

The body of an able seaman named Frank Beckett was found under the ferry wharf at Kowloon on 6th August by a man named Charles Evans, an armourer of H.M.S. *Wivern*. The deceased had been missing since Wednesday night.

There were 1,384 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 116 were Europeans. The Museum was closed for repairs on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday.

The annual encampment of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps at Stonecutter's Island will commence about October 9th and every member is requested to do his utmost to attend the whole, or at least three days, of the period of encampment.

In the official *Gazette* of Manila of the 22nd July there is published a proclamation imposing nine days' quarantine on vessels from Amoy and Formosa, on account of the plague. Arrivals from Hongkong, as "a port notoriously compromised," are still to be subjected to one day's observation.

An Indian was fined \$25 at the Magistracy on 4th Aug. for assault. A fellow countryman of his had been away all day hearing the trial of Inspector Witchell and defendant asked him, "Did you sign the depositions?" and followed up this meaningless question by striking complainant on the side of the head.

Mr. E. A. Ram, Secretary of the Hongkong Cricket Club, has arranged for a cricket week to be held in Hongkong in November, the idea being to have interport games between Singapore and Hongkong, Shanghai and Hongkong, and Singapore and Shanghai. The Shanghai Club have accepted the invitation and an answer is now awaited from Singapore.

The Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Company's Canton-Wuchow steamers are, we learn, running very regularly with increasing passenger traffic but very little cargo. These vessels have been made more suitable for the trade by taking the masts out, fitting cabins on deck, putting in skylights, and increasing the ventilation generally, under the superintendence of Capt. Clarke.

Clean Japanese yen were at a premium of six per cent. on 5th August. On and after the 1st October next these coins will be exchangeable in Japan for the gold coins of the new currency, and in view of the decline in silver they are being eagerly bought up. The conversion will prove rather an expensive operation for Japan, unless silver should recover during the next two months, of which unfortunately there appears but little prospect.

The Secretary of the Punjom Mining Co., Limited, advises us that he has received the following telegram from Punjom giving the result of the July mill and cyanide clean up:—The mill ran 30 days crushing 450 tons of ore, yielding 135 ozs. smelted gold, 1,850 tons of headings crushed for a yield of 198 ozs., forty-five tons concentrates calcined yielding 45 ozs. of gold. The cyanide plant ran 26 days treating 630 of tailings for a yield 305 ozs. of bullion valued at £1 4s. 3d. per oz.

Hon. H. E. Wodehouse held an inquest at the Magistracy on 5th Aug. on the body of a Chinaman who died in the Government Civil Hospital. He was admitted into the hospital from the Tung Wa Hospital on the 29th inst. suffering from a self inflicted wound in the throat. On the 1st inst. he was lying in bed in No. 14 ward when he told the attendant that he saw the devil. In order to escape the evil one the poor fellow jumped out of bed and leapt over the verandah. He died the following morning, death having resulted from internal hemorrhage. His Worship returned a verdict of suicide whilst temporarily insane.

At the Police Court on 7th Aug. Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., applied to the Magistrate to re-consider his decision in the case of nearly fifty coolies who were sent to prison for being concerned in the attempted riot between two clubs. Mr. Wedge also appeared for three coolies. After some discussion his Worship said he would re-open the case and hear the evidence of Inspector Kemp. That officer stated that since the conviction of the coolies there had been no trouble and no signs of ill-feeling between the two clubs. His Worship said that the object of the sentences he imposed was to secure peace and to prevent the repetition of any disturbance. As the Inspector now said there was no danger of further disturbance his Worship thought he would be justified in reducing the sentences by binding over each man in one security of \$25 to be of good behaviour for six weeks.

On 9th Aug. another small steamer owned by Chinese took her first trip from Hongkong to Wuchow. This with two which were put on the line on Saturday and two which were previously running makes five Chinese owned steamers between Hongkong and the West River Ports in addition to those starting from Canton. As these steamers take cargo which was formerly shipped by the *Heungshan* and transhipped into junks for Wuchow it does not look as if the opening of the West River is, for the present at least, to be an unmitigated benefit to the Steamboat Company.

The following returns of the average amount of Bank notes in circulation and of specie in reserve in Hongkong, during the month ended 31st July, 1897, as certified by the Managers of the respective Banks, are published:—

Banks.	Average Amount.	Specie in Reserve.
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, .....	\$2,233,855	\$1,200,000
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation,	\$5,051,558	\$2,500,000
National Bank of China, Limited,	\$ 388,006	\$ 205,000
Total...	\$7,673,419	\$3,905,000

Information has been received at Singapore of a disastrous collision which occurred on the 30th July, just outside Batavia, between the Dutch mail steamer *Speelman*, of the De Koninklijke Paketvaart Maatschappij and the *Duguesclin*, a French barque of 1,554 tons, Capt. Dejoice, bound from Cardiff to Hongkong. It appears the collision occurred between midnight and one o'clock, just as the *Speelman* had left the Banka Straits. The captain was asleep in the chart room, and the second officer was on duty on the bridge. Without warning a flambeau suddenly flared alongside them, and a moment later the bowsprit of a sailing vessel, the name of which was not ascertained at the time, crashed into the steamer amidships. It smashed in the bulwarks, demolished the chart room, and destroyed the steering wheel on the bridge, killing the captain, the two men at the wheel, another of the crew, and two passengers, while three others were wounded. The captain appears to have been killed by the falling timber of the chart room. The second officer, though on the bridge, was uninjured. The damage to the steamer was all above the water-line. The sailing vessel sheared off in the confusion, but it was afterwards ascertained to be the *Duguesclin*, which left Cardiff on 2nd May and passed Anjer Head on the 24th July.

On Tuesday afternoon H.E. Major-General Wilson Black, C.B., entertained a large party to an interesting exhibition of torpedo and submarine mining work. Amongst those present were H.E. Sir William Robinson, His Honour Sir John Carrington, Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, Hon. W. M. Goodman, Hon. H. E. Wodehouse, Hon. W. Chatham, Hon. R. M. Rumsey, Hon. F. H. May, Hon. Ho Kai, Hon. T. H. Whitehead, Hon. E. R. Bellios, Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving, and Hon. Wei A Yuk. Leaving the Commissariat Pier at four o'clock a pleasant run was made in the *Solent* to Lyeemun. Here everything was in readiness and a Brenan torpedo was discharged, which closely shaved a small target towed by the *Solent* and continued its course across the channel, then turned westward, and ran on in a large curve until its motive power was exhausted, when it was picked up and towed home. The majority of those present had not had an opportunity of seeing torpedo work before and much astonishment was expressed at the accuracy with which the engine was directed from the shore and the perfect control it was under. A submarine mine was then exploded. An immense column of water was thrown into the air and a small boat moored over the spot came down in splinters, which were eagerly scrambled for by a crowd of sampans which had been waiting in the neighbourhood for the opportunity of picking up a little firewood and a few fish stunned by the concussion, but there appeared to be no fish about, or at least none were seen from the steamer. The proceedings concluded with another torpedo run, and the party then returned, a very pleasant and interesting afternoon having been enjoyed.



A polo match between the Victoria Recreation Club and the West Yorkshire Regiment was played on 5th August in the regimental bathing pool. The game was very enjoyable, the Club winning by seven goals to two.

A couple of Chinese excise officers entered an opium divan at 23, West Street on 5th August and arrested a man on a charge of being in unlawful possession of opium. After getting down the stairs of the house there was a row and the captured man succeeded in making his escape. The excise men gave chase and eventually collared a man and charged him at the Police Court. They swore he was the person first arrested, but the master of the divan proved conclusively that the prisoner had never been into the divan and that the charge was a false one. The Magistrate discharged the prisoner and fined each of the excise officers \$25 for lying.

One of the Ping-on Company's steam-launches, the *Lee-fat*, was we hear, seized, on the 7th August at Samshui by Boat-officer Morrison and staff for having concealed a large quantity of silk piece goods on board. The Chinese on board first tried to bribe the Chinese watcher who went to board the vessel by filling his hands with silver, but he at once reported the matter, with the above result. The launch and goods are liable to be confiscated by Commissioner Hancock, but the launch was allowed to proceed next day under arrest of a European officer as far as Wuchow. This is one of the many launches running under official sanction with special privileges to tow only and which may not carry cargo.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

From Tonkin papers we learn that the body of the chief engineer of the steamer *St. Marnock* has been found in the harbour at Kebao with numerous wounds on the head. It was unknown whether it was a case of murder or accident.

The Japanese Government, it is said, purpose levying a tax on beer made in Japan, in order to bring the price nearer to that of foreign beer, on which an import duty of 25 per cent. will be charged when the new tariff comes into effect.

The steamer *Yiksanq*, which has been repaired at the Mitsui Bishi Dockyard, Nagasaki, underwent her trial trip on the 3rd August. The trip was in every way successful, and the vessel left on the 4th. She was to call at Karatsu for coal, and then proceed to Shanghai.

A rather amusing incident is reported from Tokyo. A list for subscription towards the celebration of the Glorious Fourth having been sent to an American missionary, he replied indignantly in writing that he was a citizen of the Kingdom of Heaven, and acknowledged no sovereign but our Saviour. A day or two afterwards he had occasion to apply at the U.S. Legation for a passport for the interior, but the Secretary of Legation to whom the missionary's disclaimer had been sent, told him that as he had renounced his allegiance to the United States, that Legation could do nothing for him, and he must apply at the Legation of the Power whose citizen he professes himself to be. Further, if it turned out that that Power had no treaty with Japan, he was liable to be deported from Tokyo. As the missionary's wife insisted that she was not responsible for her husband's action, a passport was granted to her alone.—*N. C. Daily News*.

#### COMMERCIAL.

##### TEA.

CANTON, 10th August.—Congou Settlements during the past fortnight have totalled about 1,400 boxes at Tls. 9½ to 19, tael prices being much the same as before. Owing to the poor reception the "New Process" Teas from Foochow have met with in London, it is highly improbable that any further ventures in that line will go forward from Macao. Common Bold leaf Teas have been dealt in to a moderate extent for the continent. Scented Capers.—Settlements for the past two weeks amount to 14,000 boxes at Tls. 11 to 29, the majority of the purchases being of teas costing from Tls. 12 to 16 per picul. Tael prices are unaltered, but owing to the drop in exchange,

laying down costs are lower. Total Settlements for the season are 116,000 boxes against 126,000 boxes at same date last season. Stocks in native hands are only some 25,000 boxes. Scenting flower is again fairly abundant and of excellent quality. The market generally is exceedingly quiet, the news from London regarding the new Teas being anything but reassuring. There is no further business to report in Long leaf Pekoes.

SHANGHAI, 6th August.—From Messrs. Welch, Lewis & Co.'s Circular.—Our last "printed" Tea market advices were dated 22nd July. It is hoped that important results may ensue from the interest taken in the introduction of machinery for curing Tea by high Officials. Occasional sales of Keemuns showing handsome profits continue to be received from London and from New York, but the demand in both markets is sluggish. Black Tea.—The demand has been good, though buyers are few in number; prices have advanced half a tael to one and a half taels a picul. Purchases are chiefly for shipment to the United States. The second crop is considerably larger than was reported by well informed Natives as possible.

Settlements reported are:—

Ningchow	5,743	½-chts. at Tls. 14.10 to 27.00 a picul.
Keemun	676	" " 19.00 to 22.50 "
Kintoan	636	" " 16.00 to 16.50 "
Wenchow	280	" " 16.00 to 17.00 "
Oonam	2,837	" " 13.10 to 15.00 "
Oopack	1,551	" " 13.25 to 16.25 "

11,723 ½-chts.

Green Teas.—Reports on first arrivals of new crop Teas have been received from the chief markets in the United States and are not encouraging as to probable results of shipments. We have not heard of any of the new Teas being "shut out." Pingsueys.—Our market has continued quiet, but Teamen are firm holders and want prices which buyers are unwilling to give. Many chops are almost colourless and are what the natives call "old cotton colour," but they are pure and unmixt with spurious leaf. Country Teas.—A large portion of the first packs of Moyune district Teas are still detained in the Country on account of trouble with the Local authorities, who want to revive an old, tax of 10 cash a package, and to allow a tare of 8 catties instead of the usual 11 catties in weighing Teas for local imposts. The chops which have arrived have been taken as soon as musters could be shown; Tael prices have apparently been no object and in some cases are about 40 per cent. higher than the corresponding chops realised last year. The quality generally is disappointing: the Teas have none of the fullness of flavour which distinguished last season's yield, and in colour and style they are below average. Tienkai have been freely dealt in at fully previous rates, and we regret to note that in quality they are not fulfilling the promise of early chops. Fychow, though not so eagerly wanted as finer Teas, have met with fair attention at fully previous rates. Local Packs.—The second chops are now coming to hand, and as they show the usual falling off in quality they do not meet with much attention. The Export figures call for a passing remark in that they indicate how completely the market has been in the hands of buyers for the United States and Canada. It would be more bold than prudent to speculate on prospective short crops at this period of the season. Hysons.—The unsorted mixtures of Hyson, Imperial and No. 3 Gunpowder leaf, which buyers are taking eagerly as Hysons at fancy prices, do not appear to us to be good enough to satisfy the requirements of any known market. The greater part are intended for shipment to Batoum. About 1,000 half-chests Fychow Hyson have been taken by one buyer at Tls. 24½ to Tls. 26. The parcels are unusually large. Hysons have been bought at Tls. 24½ to Tls. 26½ a picul, Sowinees at from Tls. 64 at Tls. 80.

Settlements reported are:—

Pingsuey	12,170	at Tls. 24 to 34½ a picul.
Moyune	4,611	" [lines Tls. 43 a picul.
Tienkai	10,952	" [lines Tls. 39 to 52
Fychow	3,984	" [lines Tls. 41 to 42
Local packed	1,016	" [lines Tls. 27½ to 38
		" [lines Tls. 23 to 38

32,733 ½-chts.

Total settlements from opening of the market to date:—

	Settlements.	Stock.
	½-chts.	½-chts.
	1897.	1896.
Pingsuey	31,455	—
Moyune	4,760	8,087
Tienkai	12,063	8,797
Fychow	6,187	8,586
Local packed	7,567	4,810
		2,331
Total	62,032	30,280
		29,892
		65,755

#### SILK.

SHANGHAI, 6th August.—(From Messrs. A. B. Burkill & Sons' Circular).—London advices to 3rd current quote a firm market, Gold Kilin 8/10½, Blue Elephants 9/6. Raw Silk.—Very little business has been doing during the interval. The disorganization in Exchange continues, and the uncertainty as to when and where the fall in Silver will be arrested is paralyzing trade. Tsatlees.—About 300 bales have changed hands. To-day's quotation for Gold Kilin is Tls. 422½, and the market closes steady at that. Taysaams.—Some 100 bales have been settled at full prices. Yellow Silks.—200 bales have found buyers at quotations; the market for this class of Silk is very firm. Arrivals, as per Customs Returns, 29th July to 4th August: 2,811 bales White, 196 piculs Yellow and 28 piculs Wild Silks. Re-reels and Filatures.—250/300 bales, mostly X Reel Hand Filatures for America, have been settled at quotations. Holders of Extra X Reel chops are asking higher prices. The Export of Steam Filatures to date is as follows: to Continent 727 bales, to America 862 bales.

Prices calculated by Maerte's Tables at 11 per cent; Exchange 2/6½; Freight Tls. 6.50 per bale:—

	Tls.	Stg.
	per	per
	picul.	lb.
Tsatlees.—Black Lion 4	470	10/4
" Gold Kilin	422½	9/4
" Chay Kilin	405	9/0
" Market Chop	375	8/4
Taysaam.—Green Kahing Gold Goose 1	335	7/6
" 9 by 12 Mess Green Stock 3	385	8/6½
" " " Double Butterfly 2	355	7/10½
" " " "	885	8/6½
Yellow Silk.—Mienchow	352½ a 357½	7/10 a 7/11
" Meeyang	317½ a 350	7/1½ a 7/9
" Fooyung	315 a 350	7/1 a 7/9
" Szechong	245	5/7
Skins.—Green Monster Chop 1	362½	8/1
Hand Filature.—Mayhenyu Croisee Ex.		
" No. 1, No. 2	565	12/4½
" Mayhenyu Flying Horse		
" Croisee Ex. No. 1 Ave.	546	11/11½
" Woo San Dang Croisee		
" No. 1, 2 & 3 Ave.	565	12/4½
" Clough Chop Ord. Keel		
" No. 1	512½	11/3
" Fan Chop No. 1	500	11/0
" Red Pagoda 3	500	11/0

#### CAMPBELL

HONGKONG, 11th August.—The market has been active and rather firmer. Quotations for Formosa are nominally \$47.25 to \$47.50 Sales, 400 piculs.

#### SUGAR

HONGKONG, 11th August.—There has been rather a better demand and prices have improved slightly. Quotations are:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White	\$7.23 to 7.25 per picul
do. " 2, White	6.72 to 6.74 "
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown	4.53 to 4.55 "
do. " 2, Brown	4.45 to 4.47 "
Swatow, No. 1, White	7.15 to 7.18 "
do. " 2, White	6.67 to 6.70 "
Swatow, No. 1, Brown	4.47 to 4.50 "
do. " 2, Brown	4.37 to 4.40 "
Soochow Sugar Candy	10.97 to 11.00 "
Shekloong	9.63 to 9.63 "

#### MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

The steamer *Argyll*, sailed on the 28th July. For New York:—5,125 packages firecrackers, 500 boxes cassia, 100 cases gallnuts, 150 bales waste silk, 41 packages chinaware, 70 bales split bamboo, 10 cases bristles, 27 cases preserves, 30 cases earthenware and 438 packages merchandise.

The steamer *Melbourne*, sailed on the 4th August. For France:—501 bales raw silk, 4 cases silk piece goods, 2 cases effects, 21 cases chinaware, 375 packages tea, 11 packages hair, 35 packages canes, and 4 cases sundries. For Milan:—44 bales silk. For London:—10 bales silk.



The steamship *Chingwo*, sailed on the 4th August. For London:—2,884 boxes tea, 1,887 ½ chests tea, 150 cases palm leaf fans, 140 packages bambooware, 120 rolls mats and matting, 35 packages tea, 24 bales canes and 15 cases blackwoodware. For London and/or Manchester:—125 bales waste silk.

Per steamer *Malacca*, sailed on the 4th Aug. For London:—364 rolls mats, 225 bales canes, 14 bales feathers, 2 cases feathers, 16 cases, chinaware, 60 cases leaf fans, 3 cases silk piece goods, 11 cases blackwoodware, 12 cases bristles, 1 case preserved ginger, 1 case cigars, 92 packages rattanware, 9,054 boxes tea (190,134 lbs.) and 13 boxes tea.

The steamer *Priam*, sailed on the 4th Aug. For London:—300 packages tea, 40 cases essential oil, 29 cases blackwoodware, 11 cases chinaware, 135 bales canes, 75 rolls matting and 1 package sundries. For London and/or Manchester:—150 bales waste silk. For Manchester:—270 bales waste silk. For Hamburg:—187 bales feathers.

#### OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 11th August.—Bengal.—There has been an advance in prices owing to the heavy drop in the exchange on India, latest quotations being \$717½ for New Patna and New Benares, and \$770 nominally for Old Patna.

Malwa.—Business has been fairly active and prices have improved. The following are the latest figures:—

New (this yr's) \$790 with all'ance of 0 to ¼ cts.  
 " (last " ) \$840 " 0 to 1 "  
 " (2/5 " ) \$870 " 1 to 3 "  
 " (6/10 " ) \$910 " 0 to 1 "

Persian.—The market has continued steady and prices have advanced to a small extent. Latest quotations are \$500 to \$650 for Paper-wrapped and \$500 to \$620 for Oily according to quality.

To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—  
 New Patna ..... 1,825 chests.  
 Old Patna ..... 29 "  
 New Benares ..... 593 "  
 Malwa ..... 313 "  
 Persian ..... 733 "

#### COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1897.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Aug. 4	703½	770	703½	—	790/840	870/900
Aug. 5	712½	770	712½	—	790/840	870/900
Aug. 6	717½	770	717½	—	790/840	870/900
Aug. 7	717½	770	717½	—	790/840	870/900
Aug. 8	717½	770	717½	—	790/840	870/900
Aug. 9	717½	770	717½	—	790/840	870/900
Aug. 10	717½	770	717½	—	790/840	870/900
Aug. 11	717½	770	717½	—	790/840	870/900

#### COTTON.

COTTON, 11th August.—Business has been done almost at last quotations, but in some instance a slight rise is to be noted. Stock, about 675 bales.

Bombay ..... \$17.00 to 18.00 p. pl.  
 Kurrachee ..... 16.00 to 18.15 "  
 Bengal, Rangoon, and Dacca ..... 18.50 to 21.75 "  
 Shanghai and Japanese.. 21.50 to 23.00 "  
 Tunchow and Ningpo.. 22.50 to 23.00 "  
 Madras (Best) ..... 18.50 to 19.00 "  
 Sales: 560 bales Bengal, Rangoon, and Dacca.

#### RICE.

HONGKONG, 11th August.—There is no change to report in the position of this market. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary..... \$2.84 to 2.87  
 " Round, good quality ..... 2.73 to 2.75  
 " Long ..... 2.92 to 2.90  
 Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2 ... 2.75 to 2.78  
 " Garden, " No. 1 ... 2.95 to 2.98  
 " White..... 3.95 to 3.98  
 " Fine-Cargo ..... 4.04 to 4.07

#### COALS.

HONGKONG, 11th August.—Market strong and for business done. Quotations are:—

Cardiff ..... \$16.50 to 18.00 ex ship.  
 Australian ... 7.75 to 10.00 ex ship, steady  
 Miike Lump... 8.00 to 9.25 ex ship, nominal  
 Miike Small... 7.25 to 8.00 none offering  
 Moji Lump ... 7.75 to 8.50 ex ship, sales

#### MI-CELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG 11th August.—Amongst the sales reported are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS:—*Bombay Yarn*.—50 bales No. 8 at \$88, 700 bales No. 10 at \$88 to \$100, 440 bales No. 12 at \$95 to \$100, 254 bales No. 16 at \$102 to \$111, 95 bales No. 20 at \$100 to \$118. *Japanese Yarn*.—50 bales No. 12 at \$101, 20 bales No. 20 at \$113. 50. *Grey Shirtings*.—500 pieces 8½ lbs. Stag at \$4.10, 500 pieces, 10 lbs. Palm at \$4.10, 500 pieces 10 lbs. Blue Triangle at \$3.90, 600 pieces 8½ lbs. C. K. at \$2.37½. *White Shirtings*.—500 pieces D. 70 at \$3.75, 250 pieces Gold Pheasant at \$3.55, 500 pieces S. Q. at \$4.57½, 200 pieces No. 7,000 at \$5.65. *T-Cloths*.—375 pieces 7 lbs. Mexican Blue Dragon B. B. at \$2.37½, 1,500 pieces 1 lb. Mexican Silver Lion No. 2 at \$1.91, 750 pieces 7 lbs. 4 Stags at \$2.27½, 600 pieces 8 lbs. X. M. at \$2.45, 1,500 pieces 7 lbs. Mexican Cow at \$1.90, 250 pieces 32 in lbs. Mexican Gold Horse at \$2.80, 500 pieces 32 in lbs. Mexican Bear at \$3. *Spanish Stripes*.—360 pieces B. B. assorted at \$0.61½. *Long Ells*.—750 pieces 8 lbs. Scarlet \$7.15, 250 pieces 8 lbs. Purple at \$7.15.

*Metals*.—Tin—400 slabs Foong Chai at \$36.70 to \$36.80, 200 slabs Siam at \$36.40.

*COTTON PIECE GOODS*. per piece  
 Grey Shirtings—6 lbs. .... 1.80 to 1.90  
 7 lbs. .... 2.10 to 2.30  
 8½ lbs. .... 2.45 to 3.40  
 9 to 10 lbs. .... 3.40 to 4.30  
 White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd. 2.45 to 2.65  
 58 to 60 " 2.80 to 3.40  
 64 to 66 " 3.40 to 4.00  
 Fine ..... 4.20 to 7.30  
 Book-folds. 3.70 to 5.90  
 Victoria Lawns—12 yards ... 0.67 to 1.35  
 T-Cloths—6 lbs. (32 in.) Ord'y. 1.55 to 1.75  
 7 lbs. (32 " ) " 1.95 to 2.20  
 6 lbs. (32 " ) Mexs. 1.75 to 1.90  
 7 lbs. (32 " ) " 2.20 to 3.00  
 8 to 8½ oz. (36 in.) 2.45 to 3.30  
 Drills, English—40 yds. 13½ to 14 lbs. .... 3.85 to 5.25

#### FANCY COTTONS

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 5 lbs. .... 1.45 to 4.00  
 Brocades—Dyed ..... 4.00 to 4.75  
 Damasks ..... 0.12 to 0.16  
 Chintzes—Assorted ..... 0.08 to 0.11  
 Velvets—Black, 22 in. .... 0.21 to 0.32  
 Velvetens—18 in. .... 0.18 to 0.21

Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk 0.50 to 0.90  
 WOOLLENS per yard

Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops. 0.62½ to 1.30  
 German ..... 1.15 to 1.50  
 Habit, Med. and Broad Cloths. 1.45 to 5.25

Long Ells—Scarlet ..... 7.15 to 9.00  
 Assorted ..... 7.25 to 9.10  
 Camlets—Assorted ..... 14.00 to 35.00  
 Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches, Assorted 12.00 to 35.00

Orleans—Plain ..... 3.60 to 4.50  
 Blankets—8 to 12 lbs. .... 6.00 to 12.00

#### METALS

Iron—Nail Rod ..... 4.00 to 4.10  
 Square, Flat Round Bar ... 4.35 to —  
 Swedish Bar ..... 6.00 to —  
 Small Round Rod ..... 4.30 to —  
 Lead, L. B. and Hole Chop ... 8.30 to —  
 Australian ..... 8.35 to —  
 Yellow M'tal—Muntz 14/20 oz. 31.00 to —  
 Vivian's, 14/20 oz. 30.00 to —  
 Elliot's, 14/20 oz. 29.50 to —  
 Composition Nails ..... 46.50 to —  
 Tin-Plates ..... 6.40 to —  
 Steel ..... 5.90 to —  
 SUNDRIES per picul  
 Quicksilver ..... 124.00 to —  
 Window Glass ..... 3.90 to —  
 Kerosene Oil ..... 1.95 to —

SHANGHAI, 5th August.—(From Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co's. Piece Goods Trade Report).—The Import trade is quite disorganised now, and business is virtually at a standstill. A few transactions have been found practicable where exchange was in hand, but this is quite the exception, very few being bold enough to anticipate the ruinous drop that has taken place. The cause of this decline appears to be wrapped in mystery and is quite inexplicable to all out here. The Bankers here are keeping rates much below the parity of Silver, there being such a scarcity

of Mercantile paper, while each decline brings a rush for remittance. The dealers are said to have resold all their holdings now, and in many cases have enormous losses to face, but so far they seem to be solvent. Prices are going up gradually, but the advance is quite inadequate to the fall in sterling, as can be seen by the Auction results. Private sellers for the most part have closed their books and refuse to entertain any offers for what they have in hand, and forward business is so much out of the question that home correspondents have been instructed not to waste money in submitting goods at anything like prices now current. It is rumoured that the market in Tientsin is slightly weaker, and that the merchants have been reselling to Newchwang, where much better prices are obtainable. The quotation for Pepperell Drills there is said to be Tls. 3.62, and Massachusetts Sheetings Tls. 3.42. A large quantity of Yarn has also been changing hands at remunerative prices amongst the natives, but the drop in the exchange on India is causing Importers to ask prohibitive rates at present. From all accounts the stock here promises to be very considerably augmented within the next week or ten days by shipments from Bombay, some 30/40,000 bales having been settled for the China markets, according to latest advices from Hongkong.

METALS.—(From Messrs. Alex. Bielfeld & Co's Report) 6th August:—The habit that has arisen during the past few months of not taking delivery of goods from home at the proper date, is one that is now causing the greatest inconvenience, and is one that if not checked, will lead to danger in the near future. Just at the present crisis in the exchange markets, it is clogging the market, and for the first time it has been very seriously felt. In the interest of trade in general there should be a combined effort, to discountenance the practice. There seems to be a feeling in many circles that the present terrible exchange difficulties stand a good chance of becoming chronic, as the regular additional drain of £2,000,000 (approximately) per annum, for interest on loans, must continue for years and will be increased in a very short time by the additional loans talked of, and these are now believed to be the cause in the main of the rapid fall of the past month. Already the market shows signs of adjusting itself to the conditions, which would not be the case if it were only temporary. Though slightly better, the home markets are still firm, and there seems to be no prospect that it will change to our good in the near future. During the past week there has been but little doing in either Metals or Sundries, and the most of that has been in auction sales. The prices realised there show the condition of the market fairly well. The following contracts have been signed for Metals:—1,000 cases Double Horse Bamboo Steel £12/6, c.i.f.; 50 tons Gartsherrie, No. 1 at Tls. 32.50, " spot."

#### JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 11th August.—Business has improved slightly during the week under review, rates remaining fairly steady.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai, have changed hands at 188 and 189 per cent. prem. for cash, and 189 and 190 per cent. prem. for delivery 31st instant, market closing steady at 189. The latest London rate is £43. Nationals and Bank of China continue neglected without business.

MARINE INSURANCES.—China Traders have found buyers at \$78 and \$77½. Unions are enquired for at \$232½, but none seem forthcoming at that rate. Cantons are still on the market at \$180 without finding buyers, Yangtszes and Straits are obtainable at quotations and North Chinas have advanced to Tls. 200.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs after a few small sales at \$357½ and \$360 close steady at the latter rate. Chinas have found further buyers at quotation and close steady.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have been enquired for at \$33½ without bringing out many shares. Indo-Chinas have been negotiated from the North in fair quantities at \$50 and \$49½, closing at \$50. Douglasses have been done at \$66½ and \$67, closing with sellers at \$67½. China Mutuals continue in a small demand without finding sellers.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have been dealt in at \$145 and \$146 cash and at \$149 for October, \$150 November, and \$151 December, market closing at \$145. Luzons continue quiet at \$47½.

MINING.—Punjoms in the early part of the week, with the news of another small crush-



ing, fell to \$5½, after sales at \$6½ and \$6¼; at time of writing the market is a little firmer with buyers at \$6.25 to \$6.50. New Balmorals and Olivers have been enquired for in a small way at quotations and a few lots have changed hands. Jebebus have found small buyers at \$2 and \$2.10. Raubs ruled steady in the early part of the week with sales at \$24 and \$23½ and close easier at \$22 cum div. Result of July rough clean-up, 2,050 oz. amalgam from 1,250 tons ore. Great Easterns continue out of the market. The Olivers Freehold report another crushing of 150 tons yielding ½ oz. per ton.

**DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.**—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have found buyers at 239 per cent. prem. and close with sellers at 238. Kowloon Wharves continue on offer at \$64 ex div. without sales or buyers. Wanchais are offering at \$44 without business.

**LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.**—Hongkong Lands have been negotiated in fair lots at \$75. Hotels at \$50 and \$51. West Points, Kowloon Lands, and Humphreys have been more or less out of the market with only small sales at quotations.

**MISCELLANEOUS.**—Green Islands have ruled in demand and sales have been effected at \$43, \$44, and \$45 cum new issue, \$27, \$28, \$29, and \$30 ex new issue, and at \$14 and \$15 for the new issue; the market closes with sellers at these rates. Electrics have changed hands at the reduced rate of \$7.25 after small sales at \$7.50 and \$7.40, closing with sellers at \$9.40 cum call of \$2. Tramways, Ices, and Fenwicks have been on offer without business.

Closing quotations are as follow:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATION.
<b>Banks—</b>		
Hongkong & Shanghai...	\$125	189 ½ prem=
China & Japan, prf.	£5	nominal
Do. ordinary...	£1 10s.	nominal
Do. deferred...	£1	£5
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares .....	£8	\$22.75
Founders Shares...	£1	\$20
Bell's Asbestos E. A. ...	£1	\$9, sellers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$3
Carmichael & Co. ....	\$20	\$3
China Sugar .....	\$100	\$145, sal. & buyers
Dairy Farm Co. ....	\$5	\$5, sellers
Ewo Cotton .....	Tls. 100	Tls. 117, sal. & sel.
Fenwick & Co., Geo. ...	\$25	\$28.75, sellers
Green Island Cement...	\$10	\$45 cum N.I., \$30 ex N.I., \$15 N.I.
H. & China Bakery ...	\$50	\$33, buyers [s. & s.]
Hongkong & C. Gas ...	£10	\$110, buyers
Hongkong Electric ...	\$8	\$9.25, sal. & buyers
H. H. L. Tramways ...	\$100	\$113, sellers
Hongkong Hotel .....	\$50	\$51, sales & sellers
Hongkong Ice .....	\$25	\$113, sellers
H. & K. Wharf & G. ...	\$50	\$64, ex div. sales
Hongkong Rope .....	\$50	\$171, sales & buyers
H. & W. Dock .....	\$125	238 p. ct. prem.=
<b>Insurances—</b>		
Canton .....	\$50	\$130, sellers
China Fire .....	\$20	\$107, sales
China Traders' .....	\$25	\$78, sales & sellers
Hongkong Fire .....	\$50	\$36, sales & buyers
North-China .....	\$25	Tls. 200, buyers
Straits .....	\$20	\$17½, buyers
Union .....	\$25	\$232½, buyers
Yangtze .....	\$60	\$157½, sellers
<b>Land and Building—</b>		
H. Land Investment...	\$50	\$75, sales & sellers
Humphreys Estate...	\$10	\$9½, sales & sellers
Kowloon Land & B. ...	\$30	\$9
West Point Building...	\$40	\$22½, sellers
Luzon Sugar .....	\$100	\$47, sellers
<b>Mining—</b>		
Charbonnages .....	Fcs. 500	\$90, sellers
Great E. & C. Conian	\$1	\$5, sellers
Do. Do. ....	\$2½	\$2½, sales & sellers
Jebebu .....	\$5	\$2.10, buyers
New Balmoral .....	\$1	\$1.70, sales & sellers
Do. Preference ...	\$1	\$1.80, sellers
Oliver's Mines, A. ...	\$5	\$20, sellers
Do. B. ...	\$2½	\$1.10, sales & sellers
Punjom .....	\$4	\$6.50, sal. & sellers
Do. Preference...	\$1	\$3
Raubs .....	13s. 10d.	\$22, sales
New Amoy Dock .....	\$10	\$18½, sellers
<b>Steamship Coys.—</b>		
China and Manila ...	\$50	\$76, sales & sellers
China Mutual Ord...	£5	£2 10s.
Do. Preference...	£10	£7, buyers
Douglas S. S. Co. ...	\$50	\$67, sales & sellers
H. Canton and M. ...	\$15	\$33½, sales & sellers
Indo-China S. N. ...	£10	\$50, sal-s & sellers
Wanchai Warehouse Co.	\$37½	\$44, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S. ...	\$10	\$12.50, sal. & buyers

J. Y. V. VERNON, Broker.

**SHANGHAI, 6th August.**—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report.)—The market during the week has not been very active. The price of Hongkong and Shanghai Bank shares was not maintained, while China Sugar shares, on the strength of the report of a good dividend, have improved. But Tobacco shares have suffered a sharp decline. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—Early in the week shares were sold to Hongkong at 187 per cent. premium, with exchange 75½, which was equal to 196½ per cent with the usual exchange 73. Some shares changed hands locally at 193 per cent premium, and more are wanted. Marine Insurance.—Unions were placed to Hongkong at \$229, while North-Chinas were placed locally at Tls. 200, at which rate shares are offering. Yangtszes were sold at \$158, and are wanted. Straits found purchasers at \$18 and \$18½, and more are wanted. Fire Insurance.—Business has been confined to a sale of Chinas at \$107. There are sellers of Hongkongs in the South at \$360. Shipping.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat shares have changed hands in Hongkong at \$33½. Indo-China S. N. Co.—Cash shares have been sold at Tls. 37 to Tls. 37½. China Mutual S. N. Ordinary shares, with £5 paid up, were placed at Tls. 23. Sugar Companies.—A considerable business was done in China Sugar Refining shares at \$147 to \$151, and the market closes firm. Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Shares in S. C. Farnham & Co. have been sold at Tls. 182½ cash, and 185 for the 30th September, and Shanghai Engineering shares at Tls. 106/105. Lands.—Shanghai Land Investment shares changed hands at Tls. 89 and Tls. 89½. Industrial.—In Cotton Mill shares, Ewos were placed at Tls. 115 cash and Tls. 115½/116 for the 31st current, Internationals at Tls. 121 to Tls. 122½ cash, Tls. 124, Tls. 123, Tls. 124 and Tls. 123½ for August, and Tls. 129 for the 31st December, Laou-Kung-Mows at Tls. 120, Tls. 118, and Tls. 118½ cash, and Soy Chees at Tls. 582½. China Flour Mill shares were placed at Tls. 53½ and Tls. 55, and American Cigarette shares at Tls. 85. Tugs and Cargo Boats.—Shanghai Cargo Boat shares changed hands at Tls. 202 cum the interim dividend of 6 per cent. due to-day. The Directors of the Co-operative Cargo Boat Co. have declared an interim dividend of 5 per cent, payable to-day. Miscellaneous.—There has been a serious decline in Tobacco shares. In Shanghai-Sumatra shares there was a dragging market all the week, with sales at Tls. 103 cash, Tls. 102 for August and Tls. 105 for October. Yesterday cash shares were forced off at Tls. 90, and to-day at Tls. 87½ cash and Tls. 85 for the 31st current. This weakness was caused by a rumour that no interim dividend will be paid for some time, doubtless in sympathy with Shanghai-Langkats shares, which were offering freely at Tls. 550 with no buyers, as there were rumours of some trouble with the oil pipes at the wells. On the 4th shares were forced off at Tls. 450 and Tls. 425, and the market declined yesterday to Tls. 400, but recovered to Tls. 450, at which shares are in strong demand. Hall & Holtz shares were sold at \$11½, and shares in A. S. Watson & Co. to Hongkong at \$12.50. Loans.—Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf 6 per cent Debentures were placed at Tls. 105, and Perak Sugar Cultivation 7 per cent Debentures at par, plus the accrued interest in both cases.

Quotations are:—

Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—\$366.25.  
Bank of China, Japan, and The Straits, Limited, deferred shares.—£5.  
Bank of China, Japan, and The Straits, Limited, ordinary shares.—Nominal.  
National Bank of China, Ltd.—\$23.  
National Bank of China, Ltd., Founders.—\$20.  
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd.—\$236½.  
China Traders' Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$77.  
North China Insurance Co., Ltd.—Tls. 200.00.  
Yangtze Insee. Assocn., Ltd.—\$158.  
Canton Insurance Office, Ltd.—\$182½.  
Straits Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$18½.  
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$355.  
China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$107.  
Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co.—\$35½.  
Indo-China Steam N. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 37.50.  
Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd.—\$66.  
China-Mutual Steam Nav. Co. pref. shares.—Tls. 50.00.  
Perak Sugar Cultivation Co., Ltd.—Tls. 38.00.  
China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$161.  
Luzon Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$48½.  
Sheridan Consolidated Mining and Milling Company, Limited.—Tls. 2.50.  
Punjom Mining Co., Ltd.—\$6½.  
Punjom Mining Co., Ltd., pref. shares.—\$1.85.  
Jebebu Mining & Trading Co., Ltd.—\$2.25.  
Raub Australian Gold Min. Co., Ltd.—\$26.25.

Boyd & Co., Ltd., Founders.—Nominal.  
Boyd & Co., Limited.—Tls. 210.00.  
S. C. Farnham & Co.—Tls. 182.50.  
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.—\$425.  
Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co.—Tls. 127.00.  
Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited.—\$67½.  
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ltd. (fully paid)—Tls. 89.50.  
Hongkong Land Invest. & A. Co., Ltd.—\$75.  
Kowloon Land & Building Co., Ltd.—\$19.  
Humphreys Estate and Finance Co., Ltd.—\$10.  
Shanghai Gas Co.—Tls. 225.00.  
Major Brothers, Limited.—Tls. 42.50.  
Ewo Cotton Spinning & W. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 115.00.  
International Cotton Man. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 122.50.  
Laou-kung-mow Cotton Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd.—Tls. 118.00.  
Soy Chee Cotton Spinning Co., Ltd.—Tls. 582.50.  
Shanghai Ice Company.—Tls. 125.00.  
Shanghai Tugboat Co., Ltd.—Tls. 215.00.  
Taku Tug & Lighter Co., Ltd.—Tls. 115.00.  
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 202.00.  
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 185.00.  
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.—Tls. 305.00.  
Shanghai Sumatra Tobacco Co.—Tls. 87.50.  
Shanghai Langkat Tobacco Co., Ltd.—Tls. 450.00.  
Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ltd.—Tls. 76.00.  
J. Llewellyn Co., Limited.—\$75.00.  
Hall & Holtz, Ltd.—\$41.50.  
A. S. Watson Co., Limited.—\$12.50.  
Bell's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Ltd.—\$9.00.  
Hongkong Electric Co., Ltd.—\$8.00.

#### CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

WEDNESDAY, 11th August.  
EXCHANGE.

<b>ON LONDON.</b>	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/10½
Bank Bills, on demand	1/10½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/10½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/10½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/10½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/10½
<b>ON PARIS.</b>	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.34
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2.33
<b>ON GERMANY.</b>	
On demand	1.89
<b>ON NEW YORK.</b>	
Bank Bills, on demand	45½
Credits, 60 days' sight	46½
<b>ON BOMBAY.</b>	
Telegraphic Transfer	143½
Bank, on demand	144
<b>ON CALCUTTA.</b>	
Telegraphic Transfer	143½
Bank, on demand	144
<b>ON SHANGHAI.</b>	
Bank, at sight	75½
Private, 30 days' sight	76½
<b>ON YOKOHAMA.</b>	
On demand	7½ pm.
<b>ON MANILA.</b>	
On demand	4½ pm.
<b>ON SINGAPORE.</b>	
On demand	1 % pm.
SOVEREIGNS Bank's Buying Rate	10.60
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	55.00

#### TONNAGE.

**HONGKONG, 11th August.**—Our freight market continues dull and depressed with no improvement in previous quotations.

From Saigon to Hongkong, 8 cents on steamers' capacity has been accepted, to Java 19 cents is the quotation, while to Singapore 10 cents per picul is all that is offered.

From Java to Hongkong, sugar freights are about 15 cents per picul with no demand.

Newchwang to Canton is quite neglected and no quotation can be given.

Coal freights Japan.—From Moji to Hongkong, \$1.10 has been accepted; from Otaro or Mororan \$1.60 per ton has been closed for loading about four weeks hence; for Singapore there is no enquiry; the large carrier settled a fortnight ago is now reported at \$2.50 per ton.

Sailers.—A medium-sized vessel has been fixed to load hence for New York at about 11s. per ton of 40 cubic feet. Another vessel might be placed at about 10s. per ton, with long lay days.

The German ship *Willkommen*, 1,635 tons, proceeds to Portland (Oregon) and the British ship *Ancora*, 2,198 tons, to Manila, to load for New York or Boston, both under orders from owners.

There are four vessels disengaged in port, registering 5,194 tons.

The following are the settlements:—

*Lucy A. Nickels*—American barque, 1,330 tons, hence to New York, private terms.



*Chusan*—German steamer, 719 tons, Cebu to Yokohama, 30 cents option Hongkong 20 cents per picul.  
*Frogner*—Norwegian steamer, 846 tons, Iloilo to Hongkong, \$1,200 in full.

*Hermes*—Norwegian steamer, 810 tons, Iloilo to Hongkong, \$1,600 in full.

*Terrier*—Norwegian steamer, 1,117 tons, Hakodate to Shanghai, seaweed, 18 cents per picul; Planks, \$3 per ton.

*Hansa*—German steamer, 1,253 tons, Hongkong to Vladivostok, \$5,500 in full; thence Otara or Mororan coal, \$1.60 per ton.

*Holstein*—German steamer, 1,113 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1 per ton.

*Petrarch*—German steamer, 1,250 tons, two ports Java to Hongkong, 17 cents per picul.

A Shan steamer, Saigon to one port Java, 19½ cents; if two ports 20½ cents per picul.

*Taiyick*—German steamer, 1,033 tons, Saigon to one port Java, 19 cents per picul.

*Tritos*—German steamer, 1,340 tons, Saigon to one port Java, 19 cents per picul.

*Wuokan*—German steamer, 1,201 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 8 cents per picul.

*Oslo*—Norwegian steamer, monthly, 3½ months, \$4,000 per month.

*Victoria*—Swedish steamer, 938 tons, monthly, 1 month, \$4,000 per month.

#### VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—*Benlarig* (str.), Java (str.), *Tantalus* (str.), *Diomed* (str.), *Euplectela* (str.), *Glenavon* (str.), *Pingsuey* (str.).

For SAN FRANCISCO.—*Heathbank*, *Gaelic* (str.), *City of Peking* (str.).

For MARSEILLES.—*Ernest Ninous* (tr.).

For BREMEN.—*Bayern* (str.).

For HAMBURG.—*Della* (str.).

For VANCOUVER.—*Empress of China* (str.).

For NEW YORK.—*Landseer*, *Frey* (str.), *Ghazee* (str.), *Benalder* (str.).

For TACOMA.—*Tacoma* (str.).

#### SHIPPING.

##### ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

##### HONGKONG.

##### ARRIVALS.

- 3, Taichow, British str., from Bangkok.
- 4, Sungkiang, British str., from Manila.
- 4, Tetartos, German str., from Saigon.
- 4, Taisang, British str., from Shanghai.
- 4, Isaac Reed, Amr. ship, from New York.
- 4, Frejr, Danish str., from Haiphong.
- 5, Gaelic, British str., from San Francisco.
- 5, Pronto, German str., from Canton.
- 5, Nanyang, German str., from Chinkiang.
- 5, Chelydra, British str., from Calcutta.
- 5, Esmeralda, British str., from Manila.
- 5, Frogner, Norwegian str., from Moji.
- 5, Haimun, British str., from Tamsui.
- 6, Fushun, Chinese str., from Canton.
- 6, Ariake Maru, Jap. str., from K'notzu.
- 6, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.
- 6, Kriemhild, German str., from Kobe.
- 6, Namoa, British str., from Coast Ports.
- 6, Tritos, German str., from Macao.
- 6, Kansu, British str., from Swatow.
- 6, Shanghai, British str., from London.
- 6, Skuld, Norwegian str., from Tonku.
- 7, Lyeemooon, German str., from Shanghai.
- 7, Chingtu, British str., from Foochow.
- 7, Tacoma, British str., from Tacoma.
- 7, Oak Branch, British str., from Cardiff.
- 7, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.
- 7, Taicheong, German str., from Saigon.
- 7, Paoting, British str., from Canton.
- 7, Mongkut, British str., from Bangkok.
- 7, Loksang, British str., from Wuhu.
- 7, Kamakura Maru, Jap. str., from S'pore.
- 7, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
- 8, Activ, Danish str., from Hongay.
- 8, Deucalion, British str., from Sandakan.
- 8, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
- 8, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
- 8, Kalgan, British str., from Chefoo.
- 8, Mathilde, German str., from Haiphong.
- 8, Progress, German str., from Quinhon.
- 8, Rosetta, British str., from Bombay.
- 8, Thales, British str., from Taiwanfoo.
- 8, Meefoo, Chinese str., from Canton.
- 9, Nanyang, German str., from Canton.
- 9, Chowfa, British str., from Bangkok.
- 9, Verona, British str., from Yokohama.
- 9, Krim, Norwegian str., from Canton.
- 9, Taisang, British str., from Canton.
- 9, Taiyick, German str., from Oterranai.
- 9, Whampoa, British str., from Australia.

- 9, Kostroma, Rus. vol. fleet, from Singapore.
- 9, Triumph, Gorman str., from Hoihow.
- 9, Framnes, Norw. str., from Port Wallut.
- 9, Thames, British str., from Shanghai.
- 10, Clara, German str., from Haiphong.
- 10, Oslo, Norwegian str., from Newchwang.
- 10, Cosmopolit, German str., from Hoihow.
- 10, Oopack, British str., from Liverpool.
- 10, Sakaruni Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
- 11, Ask, Danish str., from Haiphong.
- 11, Duguesclin, French bark, from Cardiff.
- 11, Medusa, Austrian str., from Trieste.
- 11, Hailoong, British str., from Tamsui.
- 11, Lyeemooon, German str., from Canton.
- 11, Kiangnan, Chinese str., from Swatow.
- 11, Choyasang, British str., from Shanghai.

##### DEPARTURES.

- 4, Woosung, British str., for Shanghai.
- 4, Melbourne, French str., for Europe.
- 4, Ask, Danish str., for Hoihow.
- 4, Bisagno, Italian str., for Bombay.
- 4, Chingwo, British str., for Manila.
- 4, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
- 4, Krim, Norw. str., for Canton.
- 4, Loosok, British str., for Bangkok.
- 4, Mala-ca, British str., for London.
- 4, Maria Valerie, Aust. str., for Shanghai.
- 4, Mike Maru, Jap. str., for Bombay.
- 4, Petrarch, German str., for Saigon.
- 4, Priam, British str., for London.
- 4, Wingsang, British str., for Swatow.
- 4, Wuotan, German str., for Saigon.
- 4, Bengo, Portuguese g-bt., for Macao.
- 4, Humber, British cruiser, for Nagasaki.
- 5, Kweiyang, British str., for Tientsin.
- 5, Cosmopolit, German str., for Hoihow.
- 5, Hikosan Maru, Jap. str., for K'chinotzu.
- 5, Aglaia, German str., for Shanghai.
- 5, Cluden, British str., for Samarang.
- 5, Phra Nang, British str., for Yokohama.
- 5, Nanyang, German str., for Canton.
- 5, Taisang, British str., for Canton.
- 6, Serrano, American bark, for Rajang.
- 6, Arratoon Apcar, British str., for Calcutta.
- 6, Pronto, German str., for Chefoo.
- 6, Terrier, Norwegian str., for Kobe.
- 6, Victoria, Swedish str., for Haiphong.
- 7, Maria Valerie, Austrian str., for Shanghai.
- 7, Amara, British str., for Java.
- 7, Frejr, Danish str., for Hoihow.
- 7, Fushun, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
- 7, Monmouthshire, British str., for Victoria.
- 8, Chusan, German str., for Cebu.
- 8, Else, German str., for Haiphong.
- 8, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
- 8, Kansu, British str., for Swatow.
- 8, Kriemhild, German str., for Hamburg.
- 8, Loksang, British str., for Canton.
- 8, Lyeemooon, German str., for Canton.
- 8, Oak Branch, British str., for Hakodate.
- 8, Rosetta, British str., for Shanghai.
- 8, Sungkiang, British str., for Manila.
- 9, Kalgan, British str., for Canton.
- 9, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Canton.
- 9, Hailan, French str., for Pakhoi.
- 9, Namoa, British str., for Swatow.
- 9, Paoting, British str., for Chefoo.
- 9, Sabine Rickmers, Ger. str., for Foochow.
- 9, Shanghai, British str., for Shanghai.
- 10, Krim, Norwegian str., for Hongay.
- 10, Esmeralda, British str., for Manila.
- 10, Kamakura Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
- 10, Braemar, British str., for Nagasaki.
- 10, Meefoo, Chinese str., for Foochow.
- 10, Nanyang, German str., for Shanghai.
- 10, Taichow, British str., for Bangkok.
- 10, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
- 10, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
- 11, Oopack, British str., for Shanghai.
- 11, Chingtu, British str., for Australia.
- 11, Senta, German str., for Hamburg.
- 11, Costroma, Russian str., for Nagasaki.
- 11, Ariake Maru, Jap. str., for Kutchinotzu.
- 11, Empress of China, Brit. str., for V'couver.
- 11, Framnes, Norwegian str., for Canton.
- 11, Frogner, Norwegian str., for Iloilo.
- 11, Hydaspes, British str., for Bombay.
- 11, Oslo, Norwegian str., for Canton.
- 11, Taisang, British str., for Swatow.

#### PASSENGER LIST.

##### ARRIVED.

Per *Melbourne*, from Shanghai for Hongkong.—Messrs. F. Dewjee, L. Michelot, P. E. Birch, Abdol Ali, Mohamed Ali, Capt. Bourguignon, and Mrs. Air.

Per *Saghalien*, str., for Hongkong from Marseilles—Mr. Charles Rey. From Singapore—Mr. and Mrs. Choo Mem, Mrs. Morrison, Messrs. Robinson, Reng Hong, Osuya and infant, and Omego. From Saigon—Mr. and Mrs. Ong Ka Hong, and Mrs. Bross. For Shanghai from Singapore—Mr. Chiu Sien Cho. From Saigon—Mr. Savigny. For Yokohama from Marseilles—Mr. and Mrs. Faviaz Regoet and infant, Messrs. Aleino Santos Silva, Oshima, Huhoskowaky. From Singapore—Lieut. Hewetson. From Saigon—Surg.-Capt. Moore.

Per *Empress of China*, str., from Vancouver—Mr. T. H. Bliss, Mrs. A. C. Clarke. From Yokohama—Capt. Dyson, Messrs. F. G. Fison, M. A. A. Souza, Rawson Walker, and Mrs. Arthur. From Kobe—Mr. and Mrs. Galhardo, Miss Galhardo, Messrs. F. Harit and Marques, Misses Mast, Hilda Mast, Sayer, and Mabel Sayer. From Nagasaki—Mrs. M. A. A. Souza and Master Souza.

Per *Sungkiang*, from Manila.—Mr. Nanny. Per *Gaelic*, from San Francisco, &c.—Mr. W. H. Furness, Mrs. F. Fuller, and Mrs. L. Switzer.

Per *Haimun*, str., from Tamsui, &c.—Mrs. Stubbs and Mr. Dennis.

Per *Esmeralda*, str., from Manila.—Mr. Geo. Mudge, Rev. Fathers G. Valencia Valero, S. Moya Roldan, I. Pena de Aragon, D. Miguel Villen, and E. Martinez y Yega, Messrs. E. Dubeosky and Fidal Ratia.

Per *Yuensang*, from Manila.—Mr. W. S. Fyfe, and Dr. F. Zamora, wife and family.

Per *Namoa*, from Coast Ports—Miss Hanaper and Mrs. Sterling.

Per *Shanghai*, from London for Hongkong—Dr. Cantlie and Mr. R. W. Hurst. For Shanghai—Mr. H. C. Richardson. From Singapore for Yokohama—Mr. G. Sciple.

Per *Lyeemooon*, from Shanghai—Messrs. C. Christensen, G. Williams, and R. Horikawa.

Per *Tacoma*, from Tacoma, &c.—Mrs. A. Macdonald and child.

Per *Thales*, from Taiwanfoo, &c.—Mr. Steele.

Per *Hongkong*, from Haiphong, &c.—Mr. Duncan.

Per *Deucalion*, from Sandakan—Masters Meiters (2).

Per *Kwanglee*, from Shanghai for Canton—Mr. McClellan.

Per *Rosetta*, for Hongkong from London—Col.-Surg.-Major and Mrs. Boulter. From Singapore—Mr. Bothwick, Mrs. Loong and child, Messrs. Illiers and J. C. Wyllie. For Shanghai from Brindisi—Messrs. Cummings and K. Frossel. For Yokohama from London—Gen. Cunliffe, Mr. Lazarus.

Per *Chowfa*, from Koh-si-chang, &c.—Mr. W. O. Muller.

Per *Verona*, from Yokohama for Hongkong—Mr. K. Mackenzie, Capt. T. Rowin, Messrs. P. C. Pallanjee, L. L. Bailey, and Mrs. Chue. From Kobe—Mr. Mak Ying Loong. From Nagasaki—Messrs. Chun Sam and Chun Mau.

Per *Kostroma*, from Singapore.—Prince Volkonsky.

Per *Thames*, from Shanghai for Hongkong.—Miss M. Xavier and sister, Messrs. Ayagi, J. Pasquier, Anderson, Lang Lai and Lang Yee. For Singapore—Mr. A. Swan. For Port Said—Mr. A. Heath.

Per *Oopack*, from Liverpool &c.—Mr. E. Pearce.

##### DEPARTED.

Per *Saghalien*, str., for Shanghai—Lients. T. N. Howard, J. S. Crowley, Messrs. H. B. Kendrick, S. D. Hayem, H. Melin, A. Gensburger, M. E. Benett, Hajuvara, H. Jissoji, H. Rousett, Mrs. Scott and child. For Kobe—Mr. T. Takahashi. For Yokohama—Capt. R. F. Lush, Messrs. R. Adams, J. A. Thomson, J. T. Hackett, J. B. Thomson, and W. E. White.

Per *Melbourne*, str., for Saigon—Mr. A. A. Goufray. For Singapore—Mrs. J. Gonsales, Messrs. R. Baba and Goh Chee On. For Marseilles—Messrs. A. Becker, E. L. Decours, and F. H. England Westnitzki.

Per *Arratoon Apcar*, for Singapore—Mrs. Rufus Gutierrez. For Penang—Mrs. Chan Han.

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